

Brigid 1996

February 2

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CHIPS HIT THE FAN IN MOBILE

COMPILED BY KATUAH EARTH FIRST!,
NATIVE FOREST NETWORK, TAGER &
BROADENED HORIZONS RIVERKEEPERS

In a daring predawn landing at Kimberly-Clark/Scott Paper's export dock in Mobile, Alabama, five forest activists climbed atop a 120-foot crane, preventing 45,000 tons of woodchips from being shipped to Japan. Protesters from several southeastern states took part in the December 19 action to publicize the connection between rapid deforestation of upstream watersheds and skyrocketing exports from the Port of Mobile.

The action was the culmination of several months of organizing throughout the Southeast on the proliferation of chip mills and the adverse impact to both ecological and economic systems. It brought together a variety of environmental groups including Earth First!, the Native Forest Network, Global Sustainability, Broadened Horizons Riverkeepers, TAGER and the Bankhead Monitor.

Katuah Earth First!er John was the first person up the stairs. He informed

the crane operator that an environmental action was underway and asked if he would be kind enough to shut down to prevent injury. The operator checked downstairs via telephone and abandoned the control room to await the police. Upon his departure, John immediately locked down in the operator's chair.

While John was engaging the crane operator, Steve from Knoxville, Tennessee, locked down to the top of the stairs to gain extra time for the banner hangers. The climbers, Rodney and Corey, and the sherpa, Jake, were focused on unfurling a 40-by-50-foot fishnet banner with gigantic letters. The banner team deployed it on the far side of the crane opposite the Japanese ship *Hokuetsu Hope* beneath a steaming mountain of pulverized one-inch woodchips—formerly a living community of hardwood trees. In less than 15 minutes, the banner was dropped and the climbers free-rappelled over the edge and began stabilizing the banner. A stiff breeze was blowing across Mobile Bay, making conditions difficult. But by day-



photo by L.D. Fletcher

Activists take to the cranes with urgent message

light, "STOP EXPORTING FORESTS AND JOBS" was visible for all the world to see.

John was content in the control room—so content that he made a call from the phone to Chattanooga's

WGOW live talk radio show to inform upstream listeners that we were shutting down woodchip exports to protect our forests and our jobs.

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Super Quarry Shut-Down

UK Earth First! takes road wars to the source

BY ANDREA WILSON

On December 4, 1995, an hour before first light, 500 Earth First! activists stormed a roadstone quarry in Southwest England. The quarry at Whatley, in Somerset, is Amey Roadstone Corporation's (ARC) UK "flagship" producer of roadstone. It is notorious for its supply of materials to Twyford Down and many other British road construction schemes.

To the accompaniment of bagpipes, the first activists swarmed over the gates and through a line of yellow-jacketed security guards, whilst others scaled perimeter fences. Simultaneously, half a mile away, a 20-foot scaffolding tripod was erected to block the rail line leading out from the quarry. Production and distribution of roadstone ground to a halt, not to resume for the better part of a week.

Fifty-five were arrested in this, the eighth (and so far largest) action at ARC's Whatley Quarry.

No More Roads

In 1992, ARC sought to massively widen and deepen the quarry in response to the introduction of a colossal roadbuilding program by the newly re-elected Conservative government. This program was quickly identified by environmentalists as the gravest threat to the natural environment in the British Isles. Several hundred years of urbanization has already devastated the landscape, flora and fauna. For example, Sherwood Forest is now mainly lost to concrete and tarmac.

As one of the smallest and most densely populated nations on earth, the UK is obviously already obscenely overdeveloped and polluted. Car numbers have doubled in the last 30 years and are projected to double again in the next 20. UK Earth First!ers, who see massive roadstone quarries as the heart of the new-roads monster, are increasingly determined to strike a mortal blow to the evil Lord Hanson's (owner of ARC) quarry expansion ambitions and stop more roads from bringing more traffic, more quarries, pollution and decay.

Hills Not Holes

Hanson's latest proposal, currently being considered by the UK Government, means that production at Whatley would rise from five million tonnes a year to 10 million—eight times the annual

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES COALITION

BY KIERAN SUCKLING

Last fall the environmental movement narrowly avoided a humiliating and disastrous crushing of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Congress was positioning to bring a vote on ESA reauthorization and not a single environmental bill was in the running. Not a single environmental bill was even developed. Environmentalists were so inexplicably absent that Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) was able to pass off his ESA gutting bill as "moderate." He even gained the endorsement of Defenders of Wildlife, National Wildlife Federation, and the Wilderness Society. The Endangered Species Coalition took a "neutral" position on the bill and to this day has not denounced it. How did the environmental movement allow ESA reauthorization to become a choice between evisceration by Gilchrest or destruction by Pombo/Young?

Karyn Strickler was right when she wrote in the Samhain, 1995, issue of the *Earth First! Journal*: "Just as in 1994, when I directed the national Endangered Species Coalition, there is still no leadership among national groups for preserving or strengthening the ESA. There is still no courage. There is still no national environmental group willing to take real responsibility..." But why did we expect or wait for the nationals to do anything else? Why haven't the grassroots, which comprise the majority of Coalition member groups, taken responsibility for ESA reauthorization, ensuring a strong bill?

The deferral of a floor vote has given us a second chance. Gingrich pulled the vote because the Republicans are feeling the backlash against their

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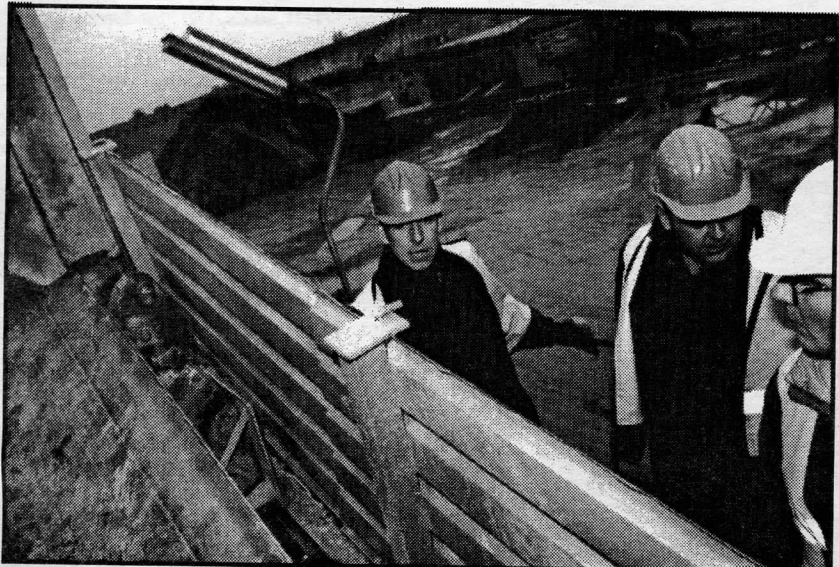


photo by Alex Smart

EF! activist wedges herself into machinery

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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Diversity Shouldn't Divide Us

Well, here I am at the *Earth First! Journal* working this month as a short-term editor. Most of the year I canvass for Greenpeace. So how did I get here? Didn't the Journal hang Greenpeace out to dry in the last issue? As Leslie Hemstreet (co-editor) puts it, I'm cross-pollinating within the movement. As of late, some of my goals have been to explore the many aspects of the environmental movement and to break down the barriers between groups. This work definitely has its positives and negatives as all things do. It's great to be a part of many different campaigns and projects, but you can sometimes end up feeling like your effectiveness is diluted. You sometimes feel caught in the crossfire. One word of advice I heard about this cross-pollinating was, "Don't get stung."

It used to seem that finding a niche in the movement and focusing energy in that one area would be ideal. However, it seems that so often we find our place and bury ourselves there shutting ourselves off from the many other efforts aimed at the same goal. We even spend time doing work that has already been done. At this point, it seems vital to move within the movement. Besides, staying within one niche would be just too easy.

So, what better place than the *Journal* to experience the joys and frustrations of the environmental movement! We get articles flowing in from all around the country and the world. Just as working with many different groups is empowering and educational, so is reading and compiling these many ideas, strategies and adventures. However, the frustrations of the movement are also quite evident. So many articles are centered around criticizing and bashing one another. Much of it seems like energy that could be better spent. I thought Shell, Exxon, and Boise Cascade were the enemies.

We are a non-conforming bunch. We strive for diversity, both biological and social. This is one of the things that makes us strong and effective, but we cannot let this diversity divide us. We will not always agree, but it seems essential to complement one another's work and come together in mass direct action scenarios that will be both effective and persuade more and more people to put the Earth First!

Some of the most powerful actions I've taken part in have been at the Nevada Test Site where over a thousand people from all around the country came together to stand in the face of evil. Not only were these actions effective, but the

energy created there gave us the strength that we needed to go back to our communities and continue the struggle.

This past summer, the Ecology Center, based in Missoula, Montana, organized a Forest Action Camp that was great. Activists from all around the country and many different backgrounds came together to share ideas, experiences, and strategies. It created hope that we could work together as a diverse movement.

With the passage of the salvage rider, I have found myself in extreme situations. At one point I was living on a logging road at Warner Creek working with backcountry activists. At another point I was in DC lobbying and meeting with suit and tie enviros on Capitol Hill. One thing I've learned: there are individuals everywhere doing their work with integrity. We should not define ourselves nor be defined by the name of the group we work with.

One of my favorite people in the movement is Lou Gold; he has this magic about him that seems to transcend many of the superficial issues that we so often concern ourselves with. He often speaks of doing what we know is right in our hearts and having faith that good things will happen. Much of his work is aimed at bringing people together to form a broad-based movement that will maintain for lifetimes to come.

What he has been saying lately is, "This is the hour." If there were ever a time to come together, it is now.

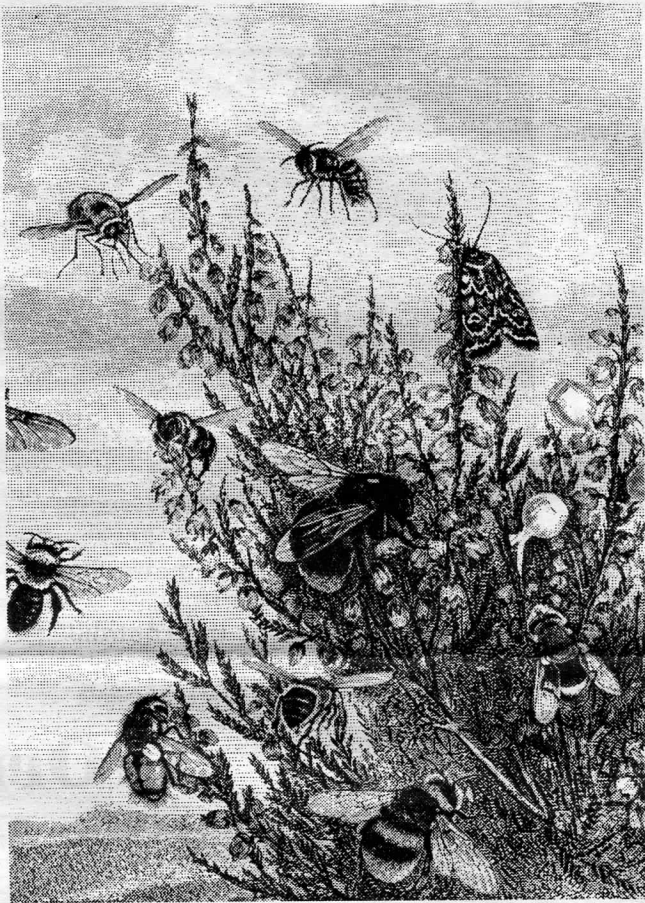
—JEANNE PATTON

* * * * *

Furry, Nature-Loving Scuzzball—Want a Job?

Of course, you don't. But if you change your mind, the *Earth First! Journal* is looking for new staff members. Quiet, workaholic maniacs are encouraged to apply. Short-term and possibly long-term positions are available. Write, phone or e-mail to apply. Don't delay, do it today! Save Sum Bucks

Sign up for Affinity Long Distance and save ten percent on your long distance bill. Plus, the *Journal* gets a donation from your bill. It's cheaper than Working Assets. Write, phone or e-mail for more information.



BRIGID

By PEGGY SUE McRAE

Imbolic is the feast of Brigid, Celtic Goddess of inspiration. It is said that all poets descend from Brigid and that it is she who dispenses wisdom. Brigid is also the goddess of healing and the goddess of the smith's forge. It is she who guides the shape changing of metal through fire.

Now is the time to shape the ideas that will be acted upon in summer. Days lengthen as the shift from winter into spring begins. Within the Earth irrepressible yearnings for the sun's fiery energy waken and stir in seeds and roots. Brigid holds the fire while the world sleeps. In parts of west Ireland invocations to Brigid are still said while banking fire down for the night. At her night forge she shapes the soul of the world.



Earth First!

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via EcoNet. Art or photographs (prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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February 29

IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT

You'd never know from the op-ed in the Yule '95 *EF! Journal*, "Don't Take Orders from Anyone" that Headwaters forest was and is facing several immediate threats. It's always difficult to decide whether to answer a clueless critic. However, because the critic is Randy Ghent, four-year veteran of the Redwood Action Team, I feel compelled to respond to his parade of false accusations.

I will share this update with you first, because the Earth comes first. There are two Appellate Court hearings which Pacific Lumber (PL) is trying to expedite. They could be decided as early as January, though April is more likely. One challenges *Marbled Murrelet versus PL*. Additionally, PL has a road plan that, if denied by the state in January, they will appeal. Blockade actions are ongoing in the Albion River Watershed in Mendocino County, as well. Call the Mendocino Environmental Center at (707) 468-1660 or the South Humboldt Radical Environmental Center (SHREAC) at (707) 923-DEMO. Now back to the side show.

Nobody was giving orders at the demonstration for Headwaters on September 15, 1995, the largest forest defense action in the history of the United States. It was organized by the consensus of about 50 activists, including Randy Ghent who never uttered a peep of dissent. The action had an attendance of 2,400 people and resulted in 264 arrests. Over 90 percent of those had never been arrested at an Earth First! action and a huge number had never been arrested anywhere. The day ended with a court order stopping the salvage logging of Headwaters. Arrestees are facing a maximum \$10 fine.

Most crucially, the action provided us with enough activists to set up a base camp for two months of nonstop direct actions through November. During these months, another hundred were arrested locked down to logging gates, perched on tripods and attached to cement-filled refrigerators.

The mass Headwaters action changed the face of the Headwaters campaign overnight, putting lumber companies on notice that we could mobilize thousands of people. A new Earth First! contingent moved onto the scene, giving us veterans a break. New people are writing their own press releases and organizing their own actions and legal support. So why must our local group learn of an activist's gripes not at the almost daily meetings we had during two months of base camp, but in the pages of the *Earth First! Journal*?

The movement must understand the difference between tactics and strategy. The op-ed quotes Chris K. of Sea Defense Alliance, "I think negotiat-

ing is bullshit. You're supposed to be stopping and opposing industry..." It then blasts us for negotiating with the cops over traffic and arrest details and sardonically asks, "Whatever happened to No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth." The words have a nice ring, but nowhere is it explained how ensuring the safety of children and elders, for whom this action was designed, compromises the Earth. Did we unwittingly fork over a large piece of Headwaters Forest? Cops defend industry's privilege but are not its decision-makers nor negotiators. We consensued not to block traffic that day before we met with the cops and PL. We needed new people badly. Thus we chose to create a relatively safe but powerful action that anyone could participate in. Shall we exclude the "mass action with newcomers" tactic from our toolbox because it might involve working out details with cops? The answer is situational, and our success speaks for itself.

Most arrestees agreed to the method of arrest ahead of time. The infinitesimal number of people who were dissatisfied with the arrest scenario could

we have all joined hands and circled up for a 10-hour meeting before trespassing? They expected *some* kind of order. The tactics were announced to thousands of potential attendees through mailings and at huge concerts in the weeks prior. We carried out the action we set out to do. And it was awesome.

My greatest concern about "Don't Take Orders From Anyone" is that it insults the intelligence and commitment of the 264 people who were arrested by calling them "disempowered." It is actually *that statement* that is potentially disempowering. It assumes that most participants are sheep who will just follow the shepherds, whom the editorial deems "activist-police." Is the op-ed trying to ensure that new activists will not return? This is dangerous, even traitorous turf to tread on.

The editorial dragged Jan Lunberg of the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium into the debate and quoted him denouncing the action. If Jan wanted to organize a pedestrian critical mass action, he could have proposed one. Of course, that scenario would have to include the potential pepper spraying and clubbing of hundreds of new volunteers, subsequent hospital runs, jail support, dealing with dozens of vandalized cars (there were 800 there), and ahem, convincing a large crowd that they should come on up to Humboldt County for that kind of action in the first place. Jan, however, was kind enough to allow us to use his office and equipment for subsequent actions.

The editorial mocks rally organizers for telling "rally attendees that the [court] victory was in part caused by the rally rather than solely based on the merits of the case through well-articulated legal argument." Most of us know by now that there is a synergy between direct actions and lawsuits. More than once, as with this rally and the Albion Nation Uprising, lawyers have decided to file suits only after protesters displayed their commitment to get arrested. So while the editorial purports to know how the judge made her decision, it neglects how the action's spirit affects our lawyer's willingness to get involved in a suit.

Perhaps the *Journal* needs to engage in some fact checking, particularly in editorials involving internal accusations. At least those criticized should be offered a response in the same issue. Even better, that *Journal* space should have been used for a call to action, not a call to faction. I responded with utter reluctance and only with the encouragement of the *Journal* staff. With Headwaters Forest in immediate peril, I hope never to have to squander my time on such nonsense again. Earth First!

—DARRYL CHERNEY



The mass Headwaters action

have waited 12 hours for the next gate blockade or the over two dozen more to follow. The decision to get arrested one by one instead of en masse was designed to prolong the action, tie up authorities, and allow new arrestees the chance to feel individually the power of both their arrest and the police state. It was introductory—and designed to recruit, which it did in abundance. It was so empowering that 60 people chose to be arrested even after the court order came down. Certainly, the entire 2,400 at the rally didn't consense to every detail. Should

Letters to the Editor(ial Staff)

Dear Editors,

A big coyote howl for Randy Ghent's articulate piece critiquing the September 15 action for the Headwaters (Yule 1995). It was an excellent counterpoint to opinion pieces that once upon a time appeared in the *Journal*, which were mostly mudslinging rants targeting specific individuals.

Too often Earth First!ers avoid debating tactics for fear of offending other activists. It's essential to distinguish between ideas and individuals. Randy's article demonstrates that we can have meaningful dialogue about the effectiveness of tactics without attacking anyone personally.

We don't all need to agree; as in the rest of nature, diversity is our strength. Debate and discussion—respectful of the fact that all eco-activists are doing their best—keep our movement healthy and evolving.

For Gaia Forever,

—BEVERLY CHERNER

Dear Mr./Mrs. Potato Brains:

Well I was sittin' back with my feet on the stove enjoying a big bowl of radish soup and browsing all that unpolite talk in your newspaper when it came to me I forgot to tell you all what happened. Snip-snip just like that and I'm a harmless spermless little tuber onct for all. I recommend it but it was most unpleasant as I think I spent almost a hour in Doc's office getting the little no-see-um buggers clipped. Also it hurt some for a whole day nearly, not to mention the expense. Cost almost as much as a two year supply of The Pill. But there's no schemeing little cuss down there in my deepest and smelliest underground waiting for his chance to sprout, neither. Planned Parenthood did a very nice job, I suggest every-

body with a penis give them a call and get it fixed up.

Yours Truly,

—N. TUBER

PS quit putting all that grammar in my letters if wanted all that grammar I would get a P.H. Dee.

Dear *Earth First! Journal*,

I heartily endorse Craig Stehr's brilliant plan for an Earth First! boycott of the 1996 elections (Yule 1995). I really think this is a wonderful idea! In fact, why not have *all* environmentalists, radical women, minorities, homosexuals and left-leaning types in general boycott the 1996 elections! Craig, if you think the 1994 election has produced some wonderful results already think of how much *better* 1996 could be! For one thing, we'd get a Republican president. Plus a 100 percent Republican House of Representatives and a 75 percent Republican Senate. Most state legislatures and gov-

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ernorships would be in Republican control. Wouldn't that be great, Craig? In just a few months, *all* environmental laws could be repealed! The defense budget could be *doubled*! *All* public lands could be given to my friends in the mining, ranching and timber industries! Most social programs could be eliminated. Taxes on the wealthy would be repealed. Best of all, *all* environmentalists would be imprisoned as terrorists! Serves

them right!

I'm not sure if all this would eliminate the "hallucination of materialism" Craig, but it sure as hell would be a gas! So remember all you greens, femonazis, negroes and pinko commies out there—*boycott election 1996! Right on Craig!*

Warm regards,

—NEWT GINGRICH

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SeDnA Confronts Exxon

An Adventure Bold and Daring

BY JONATHAN PAUL

On December 5, 1995, five activists from the Sea Defense Alliance (SeDnA) blockaded a 300-foot vessel off the coast of Santa Barbara, California. We used an 18-foot boat to stop Exxon from doing geographical seismic testing to find oil.

Exxon Corporation's project, scheduled to continue 24 hours a day until the end of January, has been using 250-decibel seismic blasts to search for oil. The company shoots sound waves deep into the ocean floor at an angle that reflects off oil pockets and bounces back to receiving equipment. These dangerous sound echoes provide a fairly accurate picture of the composition of the underground strata much like an x-ray explores our insides. Conveniently, Exxon has managed to bypass public opinion and the Coastal Commission and has avoided doing a proper EIS. Only one Environmental Assessment was done using outdated information from 1986. Environmental groups like the Environmental Defense Center, American Oceans, and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund have done nothing but allow Exxon to continue testing with only minor restrictions.

A 250-decibel blast is like putting your ear to a police siren. You can imagine what it would sound like if you were an ocean critter with low-decibel-frequency hearing. This sound has deafened marine mammals. "Environmental" groups and Exxon are claiming to have solved the problem by placing a monitor with a pair of binoculars on all seismic testing vessels to spot any marine mammals within 300 feet of the vessel. If animals are spotted, the ship must shut down its seismic arrays

immediately. There are two major problems with this "thorough" monitoring system. Marine mammals do not hang on the surface of the water and that very loud seismic blasts travel farther than 300 feet. You do not have to be a rocket scientist to figure out how painful the blast would be. However, Exxon executives almost always get their way and are now able to test for black gold.

When SeDnA heard that other envi-

ging behind, a mere one and a half miles off the coast. Excited and ready for action, we prepared to put the *Auk's Revenge*, into the water. Unfortunately, the dock was too small. We were forced to drive to Santa Barbara to launch. Other unforeseen circumstances arose postponing our launch until early the next morning.

We began our trip northward in three to four-foot swells hoping to spot the *Mintrop*. Lacking a Global

Positioning System, we were forced to rely on our eyes and a small compass. Half a tank of gas and three hours later we arrived in Gaviota as a thick fog rolled in. By noon, with the fog barely thinning and aware that we were low on money, gas and daylight, we went in search of Exxon's ship. Passing by the roaring, clanking Exxon oil platforms, we began to worry that we would never find the boat. Finally, pretending to be a dive boat captain, I called the *Mintrop* to ask her position. With the coordinates the ships captain gave us, we scrambled over our paper coastal map on the floor of the boat trying to pinpoint its exact location. With no luck I hailed the *Mintrop* again and asked how far they were from Gaviota. The captain said that the ship was 16 miles southeast of our position. Pointing the compass, we drove into the fog to continue our search.

With the day growing old and our frustration increasing, we were losing hope. Suddenly, out of the fog bank the ship appeared about a mile from us. Immediately, I radioed the ship demanding they shut their engine down and halt the testing. The captain asked us to identify ourselves. I politely refused saying we were an environmental group opposed to the seismic project. We then pointed our

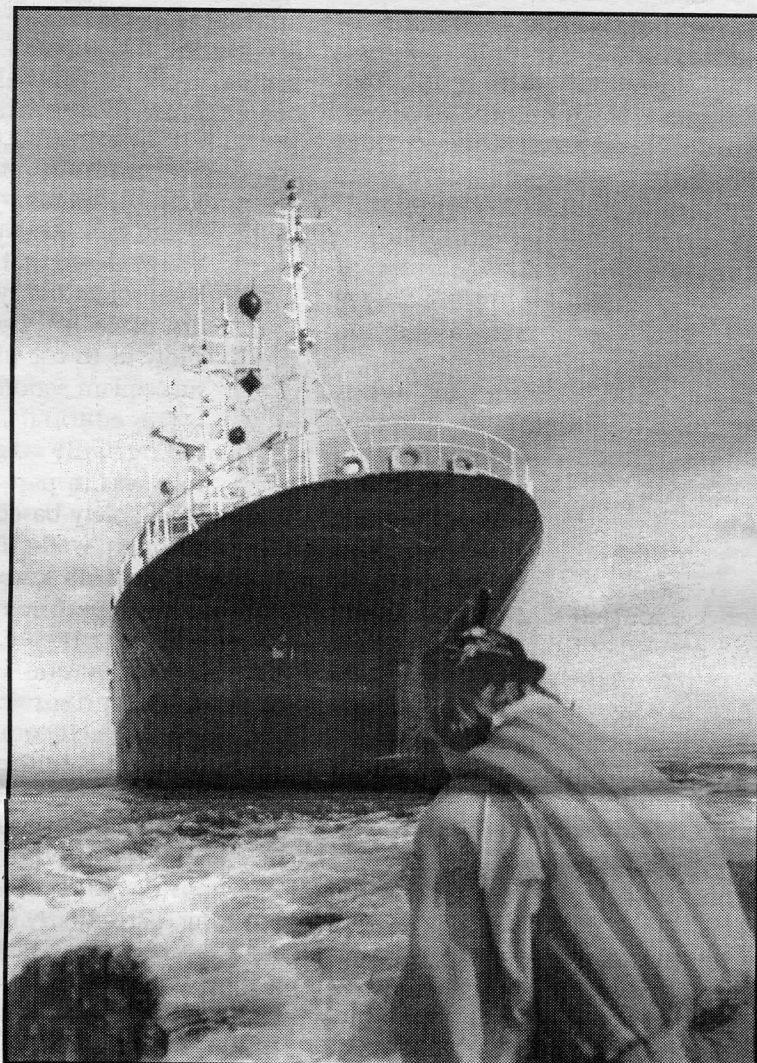
bow on an intercept course and moved in. As we came within a quarter mile of the 300-foot ship the captain tooted his horn 4 times asking us to give way. We returned with a 4 blast signal. Tension was high; ramming seemed imminent. However, the large ship cut its engines and slowed to a halt in front of our 18-foot boat. I kept the boat in gear and did tight circles in front of the bow coming within 15 feet of the big ship. As the fog cleared, we realized that Exxon was using two ships. We had not confronted the *Mintrop*, as we had thought, but the *Geco Sigma*. We had effectively stopped both ships because they were working in unison, one blasting and the other receiving the signals from about two miles away.

With a helicopter overhead, a desperate radio call by Exxon to a nearby Navy patrol boat for help and the Coast Guard en route, we stared down the 300-foot ships. The David-and-Goliath syndrome was in effect. As daylight was fading and our gas supply was running out, we reluctantly broke off the blockade and headed back to Santa Barbara. We felt awesome when we saw a pod of hundreds of dolphins swimming by headed toward the test site.

When we returned to the Santa Barbara dock, we got the expected Coast Guard lecture about blocking large, unmaneuverable ships. Luckily, we got no citations.

All-in-all we felt the action was a success. SeDnA took a stand against one of the largest corporations in the world and stopped them for a while. The Sea Defense Alliance has vowed to keep on Exxon's tail. It is time to defend marine life not sell it to the highest bidder. We must stop the destruction of the ocean.

SeDnA plans to do more actions in the future, but as usual we are broke and in need of money and supplies such as: A 120-foot icebreaker, smaller assault boats (inflatable preferred), a Global Positioning System, binoculars, a computer, more activists, marine band radios, life jackets, scuba gear, wet suits, a video camera (8mm preferred) and, once more, boatloads of money so we may confront the corporate sea rapers again and again.



The David and Goliath syndrome in effect!

photo by Gina Lynn

ronmental groups had capitulated and testing would proceed, we felt that physically blocking Exxon at sea was the only course of action left. We drove with our flagship, the *Auk's Revenge*, in tow to Gaviota, California, about 30 miles north of Santa Barbara, to launch. As we pulled into the parking lot, we saw the *Mintrop*, Exxon's seismic testing boat, with arrays drag-

MAXXAM AND HURWITZ MUST PAY

BY DAVID KUPFER

In a move heralded by environmentalists as long overdue, the Federal Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) recently filed charges against MAXXAM Incorporated of Houston Texas, MAXXAM Chairman Charles Hurwitz and several other parties that the agency claims contributed to the failure of United Savings association of Texas in 1988. That failure cost the Federal Government's insurance fund in excess of \$1.6 billion. One of MAXXAM's prime assets is the property which contains the Headwaters forest, the 3000 acre plot of land which is the largest unprotected redwood grove in the world, located just east of Eureka, California. Numerous protests by environmentalists and concerned citizens have taken place here in recent months because of scheduled forest destruction.

OTS filed 13 separate claims against the respondents for violations of numerous federal regula-

tions and for multiple unsafe and unsound practices. The agency is pursuing an unspecified amount of restitution. In addition, OTS is seeking \$889,000 in civil money penalties, and the prohibition of all six individuals charged, including Hurwitz.

Hurwitz controls MAXXAM, Federated and United Financial, which in turn controlled United States Savings from at least 1985 until its failure. United Federal is currently involved in involuntary bankruptcy. United Savings, with assets of \$4-\$6 billion, failed and was placed in receivership on December 30, 1988. At that time, United Savings was no more than \$500 million short of its minimum regulatory capital requirement.

OTS charged that United Financial did not live up to a written agreement to maintain the net worth of United Savings at required levels. In 1983, the agreement had been a condition of regulatory approval for the merger of United Savings and Houston First American of Texas, another Houston

thrift. As a result of failing to comply with the condition of approval and as part of a joint settlement with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the OTS, the Hurwitz controlled United Financial consented on December 13, 1995, to a cease and desist order and to pay at least \$9.45 million in restitution, subject to approval by bankruptcy court.

Veteran Northcoast environmentalists say they are pleased that the US taxpayers will have the opportunity for financial restitution from those guilty of Savings and Loan raids in the 1980's. In addition, they are hopeful these charges will add further fuel to the proposed "debt for nature" swap being pursued in order to preserve the Headwaters forest. They would also be pleased to see the Department of Justice recognize the various felonies as violation of federal banking laws and file formal criminal charges and criminal indictments against the MAXXAM executives.

Happy Holidays For Hyundai

BY KRIS MAENZ

With unprecedented speed and force Hyundai Electronics of America, a semiconductor manufacturing company, has invaded Eugene, Oregon with a new manufacturing operations scheme. The company plans to destroy 205 acres of wetlands in its quest to build a 1,139,800 square-foot, chemical spewing factory. When completed the three-phase facility will produce D-RAM chips. It will use at least 75 toxic chemicals and millions of gallons of water a day in the production process. By-products from the plant will include metal solutions and highly toxic gases as well as spent solvents, acids and bases.

The State of Oregon and the local greed-driven Eugene Chamber of Commerce not only invited Hyundai to destroy the Willow Creek wetlands but presented them with numerous tax breaks and easements. The city has continued to ignore public outcry, signing grading permits and allowing 24 hour construction at the site. Shady backroom deals and dark-alley handshakes brought Hyundai to the Willamette Valley. Earth First! plans on kicking them out.

Our "in their face" style of activism began early on December 20th when the *Earth First! Journal* received an anonymous phone call about tree-cutting at the Willow Creek site. A quick trip to the wetlands and an emergency meeting prepared us for a long week of actions against Hyundai.

December 21—Hyundai decided to hold a "gosh-you're-stupid-enough-to-invite-us-to-your-town" press conference at the Hilton. Earth First! was not invited but we went anyway. Clad in camo, street clothes or business suits we sat patiently as D.S. Shyn, Hyundai's project manager, began reading his prewritten, back-patting propaganda. After about

three minutes of nauseating lies Craig became disgusted. He jumped from his seat, dashed to the podium, grabbed Hyundai's pretty company chart and smashed it yelling, "You people make me want to throw up!" The crowd went wild. Hunter, in a suit and tie, snagged the media's attention, reading off a list of Hyundai's atrocities while the rest of us screamed at Hyundai to get out of North America and off the planet. Like a robot Shyn continued to read his prefabricated speech. After about ten minutes of yelling we left. No one was arrested. That evening the first of many candlelight vigils took place at the Willow Creek wetlands.

December 22—Three hours before sunrise, six camouflaged activists were dropped at the far end of the site. Under cover of darkness and fog the Earth First!ers stealthily crossed to the dormant ground-breaking equipment and courageously locked Randy to a backhoe. Sunrise revealed a few cold sign-carrying activists and one chilly, chained-down dude. By noon, when Randy was cut free, Judge Hogan (yep, the same pro-salvage rider judge plaguing Warner Creek and the entire northwest) had declined to issue a restraining order against Hyundai. Construction would begin.

Soon after machinery started ripping into the wet ground, three well-hidden gentlemen dashed from a tangle of blackberries onto a nearby dozer. Not so quickly, Jacob was locked to the machine as Wes and Kevin began the harrowing job of making sure the equipment operators understood the significance of having a person locked to their toys. After some yelling, mud-slinging, jogging, and a power grinder, all three were hauled to jail.

December 24—The sound of frogs joined the melodious voices of about 60 anti-Hyundai carolers. Trenches and mounds of dirt created a background for the six o'clock news which went live from the West Eugene site.

December 26—Dawn found a crowd of banner-holding, mantra-chanting activists at the Hyundai construction site. When the machines started, ten people ran around the lightweight plastic fence marking the sites borders and scrambled onto the muddy, scarred landscape. In the confusion that ensued, Anne and Willow managed to lock to a bulldozer and spent the next two hours singing and chanting to anyone who would listen. Meanwhile, a crowd of individuals aimlessly dashed about the site wreaking havoc for about half an hour. Mick, driven insane by the brou-ha-ha, attempted to stop a backhoe barehanded and was conveniently locked to it by a security guard. By nightfall two activists were in jail. Anne was released because she's an emancipated minor.

December 27—A press conference was held at City Hall to challenge county officials, Hyundai and the citizens of Eugene to come to a public meeting about wetlands destruction.



Hammers for Hyundai



Photo by Jesse Norung

Willow and Anne lock-down

January 1—To bring in the new year, people gathered in front of the local Hyundai car dealership to draw the connection between the huge conglomerate and the destruction of wetlands in Eugene. A large crowd had just gathered in front of the lot when a 1985 Hyundai pulled up and died. The angry driver, a misplaced Montana vegan, jumped out of the car and began smashing the windshield. The mob went wild and in a mere eight minutes had completely destroyed the vehicle using picks and hammers. A quick cleanup and rapid getaway ensured no arrests or tickets.

January 8—The town meeting went well. Although very few officials and no Hyundai representatives showed up, hundreds of concerned citizens did. Many of them plan to come to our non-violence training and hopefully will want to get arrested.

Hyundai is not off the hook. We plan to continue our fight to keep them, as well as other multinational corporations, out of the West. The State of Oregon is turning the Willamette Valley into the "silicon forest." Earth First! activists are standing in the way.

Salvage Rider Challenged in Federal Court

On December 15, 1995, the Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) and the Alabama Wilderness Alliance (AWA) filed suit in Federal District Court in Montgomery against the US Forest Service (USFS). The lawsuit challenges the constitutionality of the Timber Salvage Rider contained in the 1995 Rescissions Bill, Public Law 104-19. The suit also challenges the legality of the USFS decision to provide a series of massive salvage timber sales covering 15,000 acres on the Conecuh National Forest in Alabama under the Rider. The Forest Service claims that this logging is necessary to salvage blown-down timber resulting from Hurricane Opal, which swept through the area on October 4, 1995.

The suit filed by the BLF and AWA is the first in the nation to contest the constitutionality of the rider. Because it suspends all normally applicable conservation laws and drastically reduces the relief a federal judge can grant to prevent abuse of the national forests, the rider amounts to nothing less than a blatant violation of the right to due process, the right to equal protection, the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances, and the separation of powers.

This "logging without laws," as it has been characterized, means that the Forest Service and large corporate logging companies do not have to comply with the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act, or any other laws when they cut national forests. Radical conservatives in the US Congress rushed the rider through both the House and Senate without adequate public discussion or disclosure of impacts and in the

process, emasculated 25 years of conservation law designed to protect the public interest. "It is clear that many of these massive salvage timber sales are being conducted for the sole benefit of large forest industries and do not relate to forest health issues," noted Ray Vaughn, attorney for the BLF and AWA.

"The rider is vague and unreasonable, and violates the Due Process clause in the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The wording of the rider is such that no reasonable person can decipher its meaning. Insect infestations and dead and down trees are an important and normal part of healthy, functioning forest ecosystems. The vague and indecipherable rider precludes the public from making reasoned comments and from engaging in meaningful participation in the democratic process... and the rider thus violates due process. There are no reasonable definitions to clarify the complicated and unusual provisions of the Act," added Vaughn.

Under the rider, the federal judge must rule on the case within 45 days. If the BLF and AWA prevail in this important Alabama case, it will have nationwide implications on how the Forest Service conducts its salvage sales.

—BIODIVERSITY LEGAL FOUNDATION

Your financial support of the Biodiversity Legal Foundation makes this and other bold legal actions possible. Send your tax-deductible donation to this kickass group at BLF, 2004 8th St., Suite F, Boulder, CO 80302.

War Games in Innu Homeland to Escalate

BY ALEXIS LATHAM

In an uncanny symmetry, what was by most historical accounts the first place in North America to have been stumbled upon by European adventurers, the Labrador peninsula, was also one of the last places on the continent and in the world to be explored in any detail. It remains, for the most part, undisturbed. Early accounts of Labrador invariably use the word "desolate" in their descriptions. Audubon, who visited Labrador in 1833, described it as, "The most extensive and dreariest wilderness I have ever beheld." Yet Labrador's mantle of desolation has also been its guardian, so that today it teems with life like few other places in the world. With the largest tracts of unbroken woodlands on the continent, Labrador provides refuge for many species that have been driven to extinction elsewhere. It is home to the largest herd of free roaming ungulates in the world, the George River Caribou Herd, estimated at nearly a million. Labrador is also home to the Innu, the indigenous people that have lived in the area for thousands of years.

The first industrial intrusions into Labrador came with the militarization of the Canadian Arctic and subarctic in the 1940s and 50s. When the US Air Force built Canada's largest airfield during World War II in the heart of the Innu homeland, the still nomadic Innu would have been unaware of the war that was raging across the ocean. In the 1950's Labrador was chosen as a strategic site for practicing war games in preparation for a conflict with the Soviet Union. Because of the similarity of its terrain and because of its location with respect to the Soviet Union, Labrador was strung up in the web of enemy defense radar systems in the expectation of an invasion over the North Pole. Eventually, the US abandoned the base (bequeathing to Canada its toxic legacy). Canada continued the war games, however, leasing out Labrador airspace to NATO countries for low-level flying exercises. Now that the cold war is ostensibly over, military justification for low-level flying practice over the Labrador tundra and taiga is tenuous at best.

During the 1980s, low-level flying escalated to a level that became intolerable to the Innu. Their hunting camps were consistently menaced by jet bombers screaming overhead at altitudes as low as 100 feet and by thousand-pound dummy bombs falling from the sky. In response, the Innu launched what may well be the longest running, most persistent non-violent campaign in Canada's history. Entire communities occupied the runways and consequently filled the jails, with harsher and harsher penalties being handed down over the years. Today the Canadian Department of National Defence (DND) is pushing for yet another escalation of these activities. The Innu's campaign to stop the flights continues well into its second decade.

In response to what had become a high profile campaign receiving widespread international support, the Ca-

nadian government conducted an environmental impact study. The DND also agreed to develop a so-called avoidance program, so that "sensitive areas" could be excluded from the fly zones. To the outrage of the Innu, on May 1, 1995 the Canadian Environmental Review Panel (EARP) released the conclusions of its study on the effects of low-level flying. Although it took eight years and \$16 million to complete, the panel of "experts" concluded that the evidence of negative impacts on the environment and on the Innu was inconclusive. Furthering the outrage, the panel recommended the number of training exercises be doubled. The detailed testimony and heart-wrenching appeals of the Innu were altogether ignored. A second bombing range (approximately the size of the State of Vermont), ground-level combat practice and forward firing weapons were all given the green light by the panel. Furthermore, the avoidance program was essentially scrapped because there were found to be too many "sensitive areas" for it to be practicable. In other words, the co-existence of wildlife and low-level jet bombers was deemed impossible, but it is the wildlife, not the bombers, that will have to find somewhere else to go.

It is hard to see how \$16 million of expert analysis could find no evidence of negative impacts. The indescribable noise of the jet bombers, which is unlike anything most of us have ever experienced and far exceeds the industrial noise we are accustomed to, is so loud that it actually exceeds the pain threshold for humans. The experience of being overflown by a jet at an altitude of 100 feet is, clinically speaking, a form of injury. The force of the jets is enough to lift the water off of lakes, and to flip Innu hunters in their canoes. The Innu hunters, who know the land intimately, have witnessed the effects on the animals, who have far more sensitive hearing than us.

Birds die of shock; startled foxes devour their kits; caribou become disoriented and die of starvation; geese drop their eggs in mid-air. And when the jets have come and gone, in the instantaneous flash of a lightning bolt, the exhaust fumes have left a poisonous black film over foliage, over the moss-carpeted forest floor and over the innumerable lakes and streams where fish turn belly up and wash ashore.

Long before the environmental assessment was concluded, the Innu had decided to boycott what was obviously a biased process. "Why doesn't the Canadian public see the inherent bias of a process, where the federal government is establishing the terms for a review of its own program?" asks Daniel Ashini, Director of Innu Rights and the Environment. "It's like asking McDonalds to conduct a study on whether or not it makes good hamburgers. Of course they are going to say they make the best hamburgers in the world."

The cynicism of the EARP's recommendations is apparent. How is it that eight years of "expert" analysis and \$16 million did not establish what is readily apparent to common sense, or at what has already been established by the participating European governments who have banned or severely restricted low-level flying in their own countries? Did the panel members ever ask themselves, "If these flights do not pose a threat to human health and to wildlife, then why do foreign governments spend a fortune to fly over Labrador instead of training in their own countries?"

The answer is that the process was designed as a smoke screen, rather than as a sincere analysis of the impacts of low-level flying on wildlife. In fact, the panel members were instructed by the Minister of the Environment on what their final recommendations would be. The conclusion that Canada should stop the flights would not be accepted by the

government. One panel member who refused to go along with the scam resigned, citing close ties between panel members and the DND, exclusion of the Innu and the failure of panel members to adequately acquaint themselves with the issues.

The response of the governments of Great Britain and Germany to the appeals of a people who are standing at the brink of cultural extinction has been that this is an internal Canadian affair, in which they will not intervene. However, an invasion by foreign military aircraft, whether simulated or real, is nevertheless an invasion. While the citizens of NATO countries enjoy the so-called security of the policies of deterrence, they do so at the expense of the peace and security of the Innu. The Netherlands has stated that it is "considering" the Innu's concerns.

The governments of Germany, Great Britain, and the Netherlands are expected to renew their contracts (MOUs) with the Canadian Department of National Defence before March, 1996.

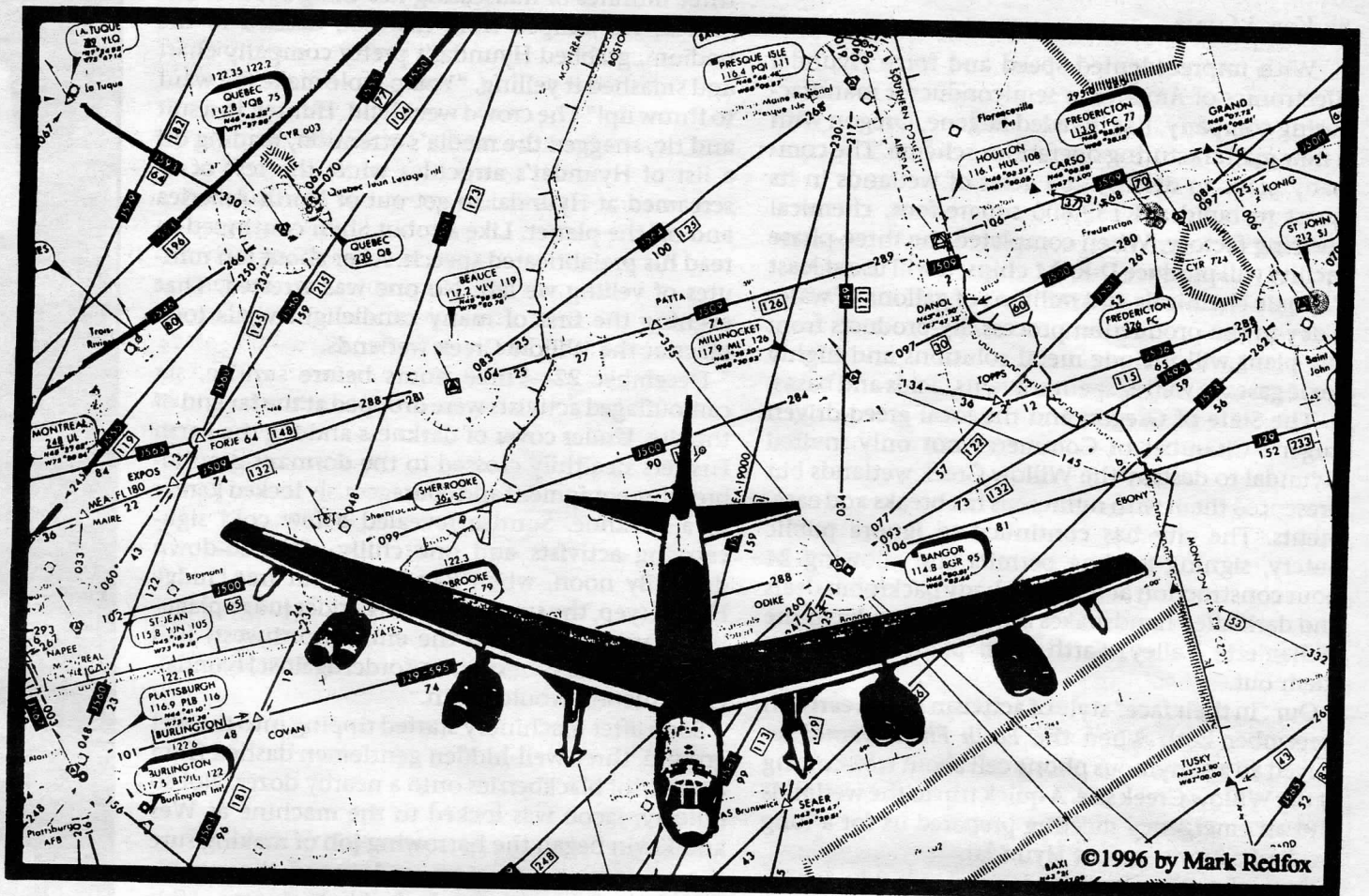
After more than a decade of struggle, the Innu remain determined. Please write letters to these governments, reminding them that by participating in war games in Nitassinan they are contributing to the cultural extinction of the Innu people and global biological meltdown.

•Mr. Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Republic of Germany, Post Fach 120535 53113, Bonn, Germany.

•Mr. Malcolm Riskind, Minister of Defence, Main Building FOB 20701, Ministry of Defence, Whitehall, London UK SW 1A 2HB.

•Dr. J.J.C. Voorhoeve, Minister of Defence, 2500 ES, The Hague, Netherlands.

Contact the Friends of Nitassinan for more information. POB 804, Burlington, VT 05402; phone/fax: (802) 425-3820.



SM3: DAM CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES DESPITE ENERGY GLUT

BY THE FRIENDS OF NITASSINAN

Construction on Hydro Quebec's St. Marguerite 3 (SM3) project is well underway. As many as 1,400 workers were at the construction site over the summer completing the 150-kilometer access road and blasting rock at the site of the rapids for the temporary diversion of the St. Marguerite River.

The SM3 project is a mega-dam complex that will be the 14th dam on the territory of the Innu people in Eastern Quebec and Labrador, the land the Innu call Nitassinan. All of the dams that have been built in Nitassinan by Hydro Quebec (HQ) were completed without any environmental assessment and without consulting the Innu people. The SM3 project has been vigorously opposed by the Innu, a community of Mani-Utenam, who continue to depend upon the fragile ecosystems threatened by the project for their physical, spiritual and cultural

survival. Although the SM3 project was the first to go through an environmental review, the recommendations of the environmental assessment panel, the BAPE, were ignored. The panel concluded that the demand for another megaproject could not be justified given the huge energy surplus in Quebec and that the environmental and social consequences would be too great.

The most contested aspect of the SM3 proposal was a scheme to divert the headwaters of the pristine Moisie River. The Atlantic Salmon Federation has called the Moisie, "the most important Atlantic Salmon river in North America." To the Innu of Mani-Utenam, it is the "Great River", and remains their most important tie to traditional life.

Last February, HQ submitted a revised proposal to the government for authorization, because it could not win approval for its onerous plan to divert the Moisie's tributaries. Accord-

ing to the BAPE, HQ should be required to submit any modifications of the project to public review prior to government authorization. HQ not only has not done so, it has not even publicly released its decision.

Because of its huge energy surplus, HQ canceled its only conservation program for residential consumers last summer. The energy that would have been saved through the program is equivalent to the amount that will be produced by SM3. Despite the fact that Quebec has a 4,000 megawatt surplus, HQ is spending \$2.5 billion dollars towards further environmental and cultural degradation for the Innu people, to produce an additional 500-850 Megawatts of unneeded power.

While the construction was going on this summer, the Quebec public participated in the Energy Debates that were called for after the cancellation of the Great Whale project, the second phase of the massive James Bay Development Plan. The debates have come to a close, marking what may well be the end of the era of massive hydro projects in Quebec.

According to François Tanguay of Greenpeace Quebec, who is on the Commission for the debates, the consensus, submitted in some 300 briefs from all sectors of the Quebec public, was that the people want to see energy conservation, rather than new megaprojects, as well as an end to political, top-down decision-making with respect to energy policy.

And yet hardly an echo was heard in Quebec or Montreal from the sound of felled trees and rock blasting on the St. Marguerite river.

"They're going through with the project," says Yvette Michel, an Innu

from Mani-Utenam, "but it will be entirely useless."

Vermont is dealing with an energy glut because of its 30-year contract with HQ, paying millions of dollars a year to HQ for power it does not even use. One Vermont utility is offering rate reductions to anyone who increases their electricity use, shamefully encouraging wasteful overconsumption as a way of dealing with the surplus. And HQ is doing what it can to unload its energy surplus in other New England states.

On December 13, New York utility Con Edison signed an agreement with HQ for the purchase of 400-700 megawatts, beginning on April 1, 1999, and ending on March 31, 2004. Recalling that only 13 months ago, HQ announced the postponement of the Great Whale project following New York's decision not to purchase power from HQ, this news is extremely worrisome. The new contract is also being called "the most competitive on the market." We know that HQ is peddling its power in other states, particularly New Hampshire and Massachusetts. It is time for New Englanders to watch the utility companies with extreme vigilance!

What You Can Do:

Time is running out for all the indigenous inhabitants of the St. Marguerite River watershed.

Voice your opposition to SM3 by writing to the Quebec government:

M. Jaques Brassard, Minister of Environment, 3900 rue de Marly, Sainte-Foy, PQ G1X 4E4, Canada; M. François Gendron, Minister of Energy/Natural Resources, 5700 43 Avenue, Ouest, Charlesburg PQ G1H 6R1 Canada.

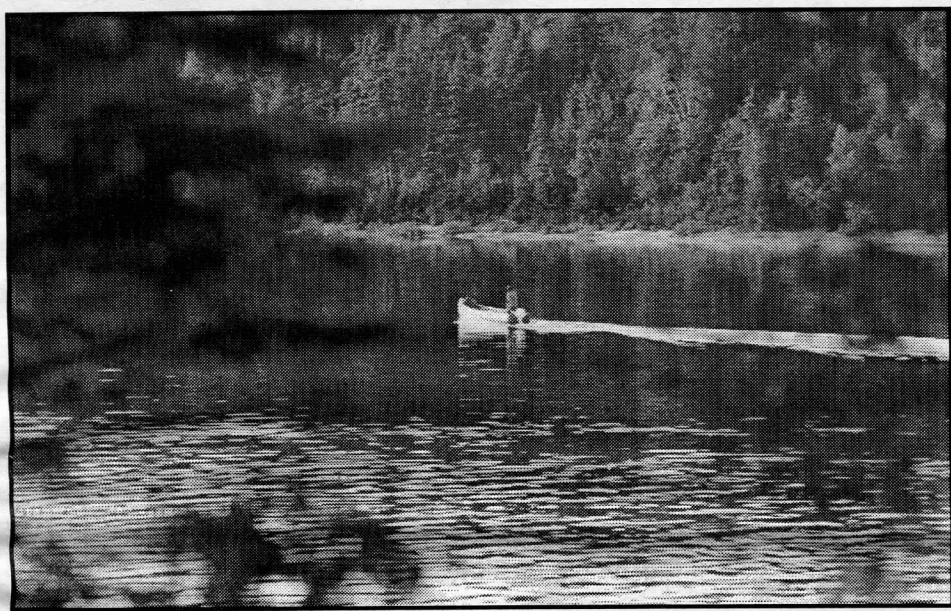


photo by Sarah Hoe Sterling

The Moisie River has been "temporarily saved" from Hydro-Quebec's plans to divert its headwaters

Quarry Shut Down

continued from the front page

output of ARC's next largest UK quarry. The quarry is already 290 acres in extent, 100 meters deep and a mile long. It is draining the surrounding countryside of its precious water supply, devastating the water table. Should the proposal to widen and deepen the quarry be approved, the ancient thermal springs from which the city of Bath gets its name may cool and diminish. Quarry deepening into the aquifer threatens further destruction to the water supply of about 600,000 people. Further dewatering would decimate valuable flora and fauna.

Extensive quarrying over the last fifteen years has severely altered the landscape and diminished the natural beauty of the Mendip Hills. By 1950 an estimated 50 million tonnes of limestone had been removed from Mendips. We estimate that, to date, the present figure is over 300 million tonnes. If Hanson has his way, the next generation will see as much removed again from Whatley quarry alone.

As well as being a vital aquifer, the area around Whatley quarry is a crucial "reservoir" of native English species, with many national and internationally designated wildlife sites.

Money Can't Buy You Love

The quarry company has lavished big budgets over several years in PR and anti-environmentalist propaganda directed at soothing local opinion. They have played the "jobs versus the environment" card as unscrupulously as may be expected. However, it is clear that whilst output has gone up, super-mechanization has seen jobs diminish. Technicians have been imported instead of hiring local people, and these are temporary jobs anyway. The quarrying of a non-renewable resource is inherently

unsustainable and denies, for future generations, the continuance of genuinely sustainable agricultural jobs.

Realizing they were losing the propaganda war, Hanson/ARC attempted to bribe the local parish councils to drop their objections to the planned expansion. A little under half a million pounds was formally offered to be shared equally between adjacent communities of Mells and Whatley/Chantry in the form of "community funds." Mass meetings of villagers indignantly rejected this blood money. Hoping to save face, the company then made the money offer unconditional. However, this had no effect on final formal ballots which confirmed the villagers' fierce opposition to the quarry expansion proposal.

Bagpipes and Porridge

Whilst Hanson/ARC were fouling up their PR, Earth First! was finalizing their non-violent direct action strategy. It was agreed that the action would be wholly confrontational with heavy advance publicity of venue and time. Two months of front publicity maximized numbers and heightened company anxiety. Since a roadstone quarry's maximum deliveries are in the very early morning the idea of an overnight camp for protesters was suggested and taken up. The location, within easy striking distance of the quarry was kept completely secret until the day before the hit. At the camp, arriving vehicles, once unloaded, were quickly dispersed, to foil any police blockade of the camp site. A no-alcohol rule was rigidly enforced, crucial to the pre-dawn start and quarry site safety. The afternoon and evening before the hit saw the camp crowded with eager protesters involved in various training workshops, such as legal, informative and tactical. The camp also provided a crèche and vegan catering services. In the evening musicians played as protest-

ers settled in for an early night to be rudely awakened at 4 am by the wail of bagpipes. Spirits lifted as porridge and packed lunches were distributed and protesters gathered in their various affinity groups, before traveling to the quarry together.

Under New Management

Protestors were met at the quarry gate by Chief Druid King Arthur Pendragon with the ceremonial sword "Excalibur," flowing robes, beard, wooden staff and costumed entourage. Once in the quarry, protesters quickly spread out, occupying machinery, buildings and vehicles. One group of climbers made it to the top of a huge crane and unfurled a banner declaring "Under New Management." As the action progressed, a large number of protestors grouped at the top of a stock pile of stone and proved very difficult to dislodge. The majority of arrests occurred at this "Battle of the Mound." Others ensured the price for Mendip stone is more realistic. Twenty metres of railway track, leading out of the quarry, "disappeared"; the control panel for video monitoring of the plant fell apart; a two-story crane pulled itself to bits; three control rooms dismantled themselves; and several digging and conveyor belts "broke down." At the end of the day, the media reported that substantial damage had occurred, valued by the company at £100,000, together with an additional loss of production of £200,000.

We'll Be Back

EF! actions at the site have heightened public awareness and opposition and so far Hanson/ARC's quarry expansion ambitions have been thwarted. The action brought new people into the movement and achieved extensive national media coverage. Useful training and experience have been gained. Both the camp and the hit were colorful, musical and fun.

Roads Take Toll

BY JOHN C. RYAN WITH RESEARCH BY
CHANDRA SHAH

Not just a means of moving people and goods, the roughly 700,000-mile web of roads crisscrossing the Pacific Northwest is one of the least acknowledged and most serious burdens on ecosystems (and taxpayers) in the region. Most of this environmentally harmful web consists of logging roads: Public lands alone in British Columbia and the Northwest states are dissected by at least 330,000 miles of logging roads, more than all streets and highways combined. The road network has reached staggering proportions: streams flow all over the Pacific Northwest, yet in Oregon, Washington, and western Montana, roads have surpassed streams as a defining feature of the landscape. The Northwest is famous for streams filled with salmon and trout, but roads filled with cars and logging trucks are perhaps more accurate symbols today.

The two major types of roads in the Northwest, those built for driving and those built for logging, have severe impacts on natural systems. In addition to boosting car use and logging, the vast road network itself threatens the Northwest's natural heritage, from cedars to salmon, salamanders to grizzly bears. Roads harm the environment by degrading and polluting nearby streams, dividing wildlife habitats into small fragments, and spreading exotic species. It is time to pay more attention to roads, their fiscal costs, and their environmental toll in order to sustain the values that make the Northwest unique and play a far greater role in our economy than logging or driving.

Roads' Toll

Roads are a tangible indicator of the physical scale of our economy and its impacts on natural systems. This footprint of our economy has grown substantially over the past three decades. According to federal, state, and provincial government inventories, British Columbia has the longest road network in the Northwest, roughly 190,000 miles (300,000 km), followed by Oregon (127,000 miles), Washington (95,000 miles), and Idaho (69,000 miles).

Impervious surfaces like pavement collect and concentrate water and toxins. Because water runs immediately off pavement rather than soaking into the ground, roads often lower groundwater tables and destabilize nearby waterways. In heavily paved areas, streams fluctuate between extreme drought and flood and, in the process, scour away stream banks and fish habitats such as pools and downed logs. Studies in the Seattle area show stream channel stability, fish habitat quality, and salmon and amphibian populations all decline if even 10-15 percent of a watershed is covered by impervious surfaces. Roads also constrict streams into culverts, which are often difficult or impossible for fish to pass through.

Heavy metals and hydrocarbons emitted or leaked from cars—along with road salt and roadside herbicides—run off roads and into adjacent waterways. Half the cars on US highways leak some hazardous fluid. In the words of Darrel Mills, manager of a salmon hatchery near Tacoma, Washington, "There's just about every known crud coming off the roads."

Roads built for logging degrade forests before any trees are cut. Erosion and sedimentation, often in massive landslides, are inescapable by-products of road building in steep terrain; sedimentation is particularly harmful to salmon. In Idaho and Oregon, forest roads have caused erosion at least 100 times greater than natural rates. Even as roads block the movement of many native species, they open remote areas to hunters, exotic weeds, and diseases. Port Orford cedar, a highly prized tree found only in southwestern Oregon and northwestern California, is endangered by a root-rot fungus that is spread along logging roads. Until forest roads are obliterated

(with slopes revegetated and returned to original contours), they will continue to trigger erosion and disrupt native species.

The Road More Traveled

Surprisingly, the Northwest's extensive network of highways, covering 220,000 miles in 1994, has expanded relatively little since 1960. During this period, regional population nearly doubled, and the number of cars tripled, yet recorded highway mileage increased by only 25 percent. (Actual growth was somewhat greater: Private roads are no longer included in government inventories.) Highway expansion has been slow in an era of rapid suburban sprawl partly because new developments, even twisting cul-de-sacs, do not add much mileage compared with old rural roads stretching across vast distances. And some suburbs simply paved existing roads as they took over woodlands or farms.

The inevitable result of cars multiplying faster than highways has been congestion. Of course, road expansion is often touted as a solution to traffic congestion. But major new construction is no longer a possibility: Governments in the region already spend \$4.7 billion annually, including \$1.4 billion

including state, private, and other commercial timber lands) are probably crisscrossed by 280,000 miles of logging roads.

The BC Ministry of Forests estimates that timber companies have built roughly 120,000 miles (200,000 km) of roads, half of which are not maintained, on BC's public lands in addition to the 24,000 miles (38,000 km) in Ministry inventories. Although nearly one third of the province remains ecologically intact in large roadless areas, logging roads have fragmented and otherwise impaired much of BC's natural habitat: 37 percent of the province lies within one kilometer of a road.

Fewer Roads, Less Traveled

Forest agencies acknowledge the destructive effects of roads. In fact, road removal is a central part of watershed restoration planned or beginning in much of the Northwest. British Columbia, for example, expects to remove 3,000 miles (5,000 km) of forest roads annually under its Forest Renewal Plan. Yet the province plans to build twice as many miles of new logging roads each year. BC should instead reduce its road building and aim for no net growth in its forest road network. Logging roads in areas such as the Kootenays of southeastern BC endanger wide-ranging species such as grizzlies and caribou (see map).

In the US, where roadless areas are much rarer, the Forest Service should build no more roads. The \$90 million in annual subsidies to logging and building in the Northwest's national forests could instead put people to work taking out logging roads.

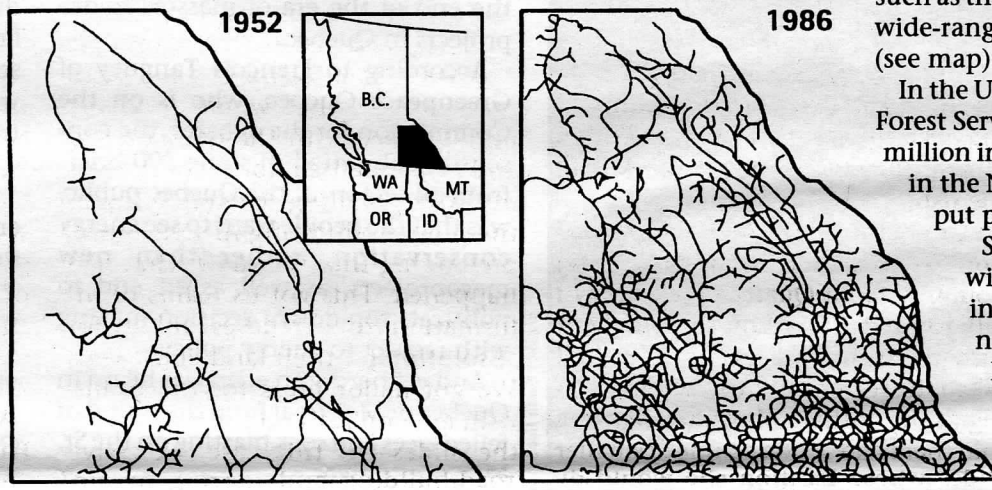
Some logging in national forests is done with helicopters rather than trucks, reducing the need for new roads. Yet the phenomenal fuel consumption of tree-toting helicopters makes their use far from environmentally friendly. In one 5.5 hour shift, these giant machines burn nearly 8,000 gallons (30,000 liters) of fuel, as much as a car burns in 20 years of typical use. Already three times as expensive as conventional logging,

helicopter logging is only viable because today's low fuel prices do not reflect petroleum's true costs to society.

Like timber companies, drivers pay less than full price for the roads they use. Because of their low gas taxes, Canadian and American drivers pay less of the cost of driving—and other taxpayers more—than anywhere in the industrial world. In addition, highways in the US Northwest were built largely at the expense of drivers and taxpayers outside the region. The region received 51 percent more from the federal highway trust fund than Northwesterners paid to the fund in taxes over the past 45 years. Washingtonians, for example, paid only 10 percent of the cost of interstate highway construction in their state. In recent years, highway subsidies have fallen but remain large. Fuel taxes, vehicle registrations, and other user fees paid by Pacific Northwest drivers fell at least \$300 million short of covering highway construction and maintenance costs in 1993.

If governments in the Northwest were concerned about sustainability, they would tax driving instead of subsidizing it and remove forest roads instead of building them. Expanding roadless areas would improve the health of the region's rivers and forests. It would aid the survival of numerous species, especially in the face of global climate change. It would save the millions of dollars spent to maintain roads and to lessen their impacts on endangered species. And it would bolster the Pacific Northwest's place in the emerging information economy. The competitive advantage of the Northwest over other regions lies not in the density of its road network but in the assets that roads threaten: the quality of life that Northwesterners enjoy and the natural systems that support us all.

This article reprinted courtesy of Northwest Environment Watch. For more information contact Northwest Environment Watch 1402 Third Avenue, Suite 1127, Seattle, WA 98101-2118, (206) 447-1880, fax (206) 447-2270, e-mail: nwatch@igc.apc.org.



Two-wheel-drive roads, Kootenay Mountains, BC; The Pacific Northwest encompasses most of BC, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, southeastern Alaska, northwestern California, and western Montana.

(Canadian) in BC, on highways and still cannot maintain existing roads. Washington State, for example, forecasts a \$7 billion shortfall for road maintenance over the next 20 years, not even counting new construction. Worse, road expansion only brings more driving. Trying to solve traffic congestion by building more roads is like trying to lose weight by loosening your belt.

Roads Versus Forests

In contrast to highways, national forest roads have proliferated since 1960: they have more than tripled in Oregon and more than doubled in both Idaho and Washington. Today, public, or Crown, lands in British Columbia (which cover a larger area than all other public lands in the Pacific Northwest) have roughly 150,000 miles (240,000 km) of roads. Oregon's national forests report having 73,000 miles, Washington's 22,000 miles, and Idaho's 33,000 miles. Outside existing roadless or wilderness areas (most of which are sparsely wooded), national forests in the US Northwest average 3.5 miles of road for each square mile of land, more than twice the road densities that cause populations of elk, wolves, and grizzlies to decline.

Yet these numbers doubly undercount logging roads. First, US Forest Service record-keeping is often flawed. The Forest Service estimates that 20 percent of roads in the national forests of western Oregon and Washington are not listed in official inventories. Many roads listed as closed or obliterated remain passable by two-wheel-drive vehicles. Along such roads, ecosystems are still disturbed (for example, grizzlies shot), and soils may erode especially quickly because the roads are no longer maintained.

Second, almost no information is available about logging roads on private land or in British Columbia. The 11 million acres of timber industry land in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, is as densely covered with roads as the roaded areas of the region's national forests, would contain 65,000 miles of logging roads. All told, forests in these states (in-

Clearwater Mudslides

BY DR. DILETTANTE

That Earth First! craving to harass Freddie is how it started. Lorenzo and I were talking on the phone the morning of November 30, 1995, having the "How are we going to mess with the Freddie today?" conversation. This time, our personal jihad involved a huge landslide on Quartz Creek, a tributary of the North Fork of the Clearwater River in North-Central Idaho that had blown out in mid-November. Now don't forget (or see the Samhain '95 *EF! Journal*), when we're talking Clearwater Country, we're talking hundreds of thousands of unprotected, roadless acres. We're talking old growth, too.

Those doggoned big trees happen to grow mostly along the creeks out here—that's the real problem. Before anybody thought to save trees just for their own sake, local loggers, aided by Potlatch and Plum Creek Timber Corporations, the State of Idaho and the US Forest Service (USFS), got into most of the front country and skinned the big white pines, cedars and firs out of the riparian areas and the surrounding hillsides.

Now the Forest Service isn't the only problem out here. Potlatch, Plum Creek, the State of Idaho and the Feds own lots of intermingled land in this neck of the woods. But we local enviros can distinguish between them by land management style: Potlatch and Plum Creek's style on private land is nuclear; on state land it's nuclear with "leave"

trees. USFS style is neutron bomb nuclear in 40-acre checkerboard cuts in the roaded country. All of these management styles cause blowouts.

A blowout is a liquid/soil avalanche, often caused by roading and logging on unstable, already overlogged territory. Heavy rain saturates the soil, often melting any snow quickly.

If there are no trees to hold the soil in place (hint: clearcuts in the riparian corridor!), the ground slides in huge hunks into the creek. Dirt then builds up in the creek until it finally gives. The mud scours out the waterway like a bulldozer with a U-shaped blade, devastating all the pool habitat in its path. Often, the river channel is changed. Huge amounts of debris can be deposited in the main stem of the river. For instance, the Quartz Creek slide created an earthen dam over 60 feet high and 600 feet wide, containing over 400,000 cubic yards of mud. Of course, a blowout can also kill all the fish.

I called the North Fork Ranger Station to talk to District Ranger Art Bourassa about Quartz Creek. "May I talk to Art?" I asked oh so politely. It turned out that Art was in the field. I asked the secretary if Art was out looking at the "other" blowouts, figuring that there had to be a couple of smaller slides whose location she would divulge if I played like I was "in the

know". Doggone if she didn't start babbling, talking about blowouts on drainages all over the Clearwater. After spilling her guts, she regained her composure. "Who are you, anyway?" she asked. Blurting out something about Art being a Publisher's Clearinghouse winner, I hung up. I called back Lorenzo and told him the story

The whole Clearwater country was sliding towards the sea.

was far bigger than just Quartz Creek.

The whole Clearwater country was sliding towards the sea. I called my fisheries biologist friend, Yaqui Al, and asked him for his top ten picks on drainages that would probably blow. Armed with the list, Lorenzo and I worked the phones for the rest of the day, calling our contacts and the press, confirming Al's picks and pretending that we knew what had happened. This got us reams of information from Freddie looking for absolution for their land-abuse sins. We got major press for the event, with an emphasis on the reasons for the slides—in this case, excessive road-building and logging on unstable ground.

Bill Bob even drove over from Missoula and confirmed what we had suspected all along. The unlogged drainages on the south side of the Lochsa were running clear. But the damaged, overlogged watersheds along the north were raging mud. US 12 collapsed into the Lochsa, closing the road for a month, with one of the few unlogged drainages, Noseum Creek, blowing out the road. During the press trip to the slides, Ranger Bourassa, who is a strangely honest timber beast, admitted that the blowouts had been caused by bad land management and unrealistic risk-taking to get the cut out.

The running count of the Clearwater land failures is now over 100 slides and creek blowouts, with slides on the St. Joe, North Fork of the Clearwater, and Lochsa rivers. Many major tributaries of the Lochsa and North Fork are lost to the salmon, cutthroat and bull trout. Places like Papoose Creek on the Upper Lochsa and Quartz Creek on the North Fork may be damaged for geologic time. The estimated ratio of roaded-to-roadless blowouts is running 100 to six.

The Clearwater is now suffering a major aquatic extinction spasm. These events parallel the fate of Idaho's South Fork of the Salmon, which suffered major slides in the 60s and 70s caused by the same overlogging and over-roading, destroying the fishery. It remains unrecovered.

Fortunately, the Clearwater has strong roadless reserves. The Upper Lochsa has White Sand and Warm Springs Creeks, both unroaded and unlogged. Both are on the block in the plans of the Clearwater National Forest. On the North Fork, the Kelly/Cayuse drainage, though not designated as wilderness, is temporarily safe. But the USFS wants Weitas Creek.

The timber industry is also pressing Larry Craig, Senator from Idaho, to give the Clearwater NF to the state as part of the latest Sagebrush "Free Lunch" Rebellion. This would be bad. Idaho allows no citizen input into land management decisions.

The word on the street is that the Forest Service will not do a Changed Condition Analysis, or analyze cumulative effects on remaining sales (Fish Bate, Fern Star, and White Sand) on similar land types, which are mostly in adjacent roadless areas (North Fork Clearwater South Face, Mallard Larkins, and White Sand). Your outcry can help. Write letters to Hal Salwasser, Regional Forester, Region 1 USFS, PO Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, and Jim Caswell, Clearwater NF, 12730 US Hwy 12, Orofino, ID 83544. Insist that the USFS update the Clearwater Forest Plan to reflect the impacts of the blowouts. Tell them not to log on similar land-types, as we now have proof that such practices result in destroyed ecosystems. Be mad—REAL MAD.

For more info, contact the Cove/Mallard Coalition at (208) 882-9755.

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North fork of the Clearwater River drainage in the Clearwater National Forest, Idaho—clearcut caused by Aquarius Timber Sale

Fiddling While The Forests Fall

BY JUSTIN TIME

Back in the fall of 1994, the plaintiff groups who surrendered the injunctions stopping old-growth logging throughout the range of the northern spotted owl trotted out a letter signed by Bruce Babbitt. The letter promised that, in exchange for capitulation, the Clinton administration would resist any future riders that would accelerate the cut and deny public access to the courts to enforce the weak laws governing logging on public lands. This letter was the sole concession the plaintiffs could gain from their abandonment of thousands of acres of priceless habitat.

Last year Bubba broke that promise and signed into law what has become known as the "Salvage Rider." This rider is, of course, a naked move to liquidate the last fragments of ancient forest. Only clearcut sales of native forests have gone forward. "Forest Health" sales offered under the rider by the Forest Service have not been bid on. By merely putting the word "salvage" in the title of old and new timber sales, the Forest Service gets to keep 100 percent of the receipts, returning nothing to the Treasury. So, virtually every sale nationwide is now a "salvage" sale.

The Nationals' Response

With FAX machines and e-mail all over the country ablaze with the latest breast-beating about "repealing the salvage rider," you'd almost think the national groups had become vertebrates. Sorry folks, the repeal is going nowhere. The rider will have run its course and 11,000 acres of irreplaceable ancient forests will be stumplands long before the grandstanders from green central ever come close to getting enough sponsors to attain a repeal.

Oregon Rep. Elizabeth Furse, founder of the 1990 Democrats for Hatfield, has introduced a rider repeal bill that so far has some 90 co-sponsors. Of course, it takes 218 votes to pass and, even in the unlikely event that it does pass in time, what are we left with? We're still looking at the same old ineffective package of laws that got us here in the first place. We need a proactive forest protection bill like the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, which has been deemed unworthy by the nationals, even though it has half as many (44) co-sponsors as the Furse effort.

In her call for a "citizen resistance to the logging without laws rider," Julie Norman, Executive Director of the injunction-surrendering group Headwaters, calls for ever-increasing amounts of time and energy to be squandered on the dead-end repeal campaign. Norman rails on about how "Senator Hatfield promised back in 1990 that section 318 would be the last of the timber sale riders to suspend the laws, but the new Republican majority led by Newt Gingrich, Don Young and Slade Gorton has changed everything."

Did I miss something here? Didn't Democrat Bill Clinton sign the salvage rider into law? Didn't Bruce

Babbitt write that the administration would resist any future riders? Didn't Clinton come up with Option 9, which condemns over half the surviving owls and old growth? Wasn't it Clinton's Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas who first pushed the whole "forest health/salvage" lie? Oh, those wretched Republicans!

Making the Politicians Pay

In a special issue of its journal, *Wild Oregon*, ONRC (yet another of the injunction-surrendering groups) announced its tough new political wing, ONRC Action, with catchy slogans: "It's time to take off the gloves and get political. It's time to make them vote green. Unless politicians truly feel the heat..." and blah, blah, blah.

What does this puissant group do in reality? Right out of the gate, ONRC Action prematurely endorsed Representative Ron Wyden for Oregon's vacant US Senate seat. ONRC Action went so far as to take out an ad in the limousine liberal Portland rag, *Willamette Week*, in support of "protector" Wyden! The Sierra Club also endorsed Wyden and hired a full-time DC activist to work on his behalf. (Her credentials? She worked on the failed Dan Hamburg re-election campaign.) Now, this is the same Wyden who voted for Section 318 and has always been an environmental no show, taking marching orders from the architect of extinction himself, Mark Hatfield. On Wyden's 15-year watch in Congress, we've seen the forests furiously fall and the salmon all but vanish.

Upon his knighting by these gloves off/get-tough-with-politicians groups, Wyden promptly issued a "Ron Wyden on Timber" position statement that calls conservationists "extremists" in its opening salvo, then goes on to trot out "The Wyden Plan," a "timber policy which seeks to produce a real solution to the timber problem" by achieving these three goals: "First, a successful timber policy should protect existing (timber) jobs" followed by the contradictory goal that "any viable timber policy should protect old-growth forest" and "third, and perhaps most importantly, timber policy must give Oregon's timber businesses and families certainty and closure..." (Hey, Ron, I got your certainty for you—Zero Cut on Public Lands.)

Wyden then stated at a "debate" that "Option 9 doesn't cut enough timber" and some blather about how "we need to cut old growth today and we need to cut old growth tomorrow." The Oregon Senate race—talk about the evil of the two lessers! As in the sorry salamander's Contract on America, the word "environment" never even appears on Ron Wyden's Internet home page.

Quick, Where's the Wooden Stake?

There they go again. That big oil foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, has once again launched a national campaign to "save" our forests, called the Forest Defense Alliance. This "grassroots" legal effort will be run by the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund

(SCLDF) whose grassroots organizing bone fides must come from their proven ability to arm-twist their captive plaintiffs into such disasters as releasing injunctions.

The new, improved Pew campaign has as its focus three weenie defensive concerns. In their own words these are: "(1) Repeal the Rider, (2) Stop bad things from happening in the appropriations process in 1996 and (3) Stop bad 'forest health' or 'NFMA reform' legislation." Can there be such a thing as good "forest health" legislation? Do these guys ever plan any proactive, protection legislation? Even the toothless Ancient Forest Protection Act was deemed too radical by these wimps. Sounds like the Defensive Forest Alliance to me, or maybe the Grant Defense Alliance.

Clinton's Clearcut Cover-up

The real concern of Pew is the reelection of Bubba. That's why the strategies are all defensive. That's why there's no analysis of past debates. That's why you'll hear all about the evil Republicans but never a discouraging word about Clinton, Gore, Babbitt and the rest of the corporate Democrats. And, no mention that, if serious, Clinton could simply shut down the entire federal timber sale program by Executive Order until the repeal of the rider.

Instead of such an Executive Order, Clinton timber czar Tom Tuchman recently called up activists in southern Oregon who have been attempting to roll-back the infamous Elk River sales (Boulder-Crab and Father Oak). These sales are going forward as a result of the Clinton-signed rider, ignoring the consequences to the marbled murrelet. Tuchman told the activists that "the administration (read: Rep. Peter Defazio—another non-sponsor of the "repeal" bill) is attempting to identify old growth in other Option 9 reserves that will be substituted for the uncut volume left in the Elk River Sales." He warned that "any civil disobedience at the sales would result in the units being cut immediately."

Kinda like LBJ calling up Dr. King and saying, "Martin. I understand you got a problem with beatings and all down there. You know, we're trying to identify some northern negroes to take on some of the abuse. However, if y'all protest and the like, we may just have to let 'em lynch ya."

On January 18, Jim Jontz, latest Executive Director of the foundation front group Western Ancient Forest Campaign (WAFAC) and Pew-anointed liaison to the grassroots, went apoplectic and chastised Phil Nanas of the Native Forest Council when 200 activists at a CD at the North Umpqua Ranger District in southern Oregon began chanting "Zero Cut!" following Phil's speech. Jontz angrily demanded that the message be limited to "Repeal the Rider." Once again, controlling the grassroots rather than listening to them is the real mission of green central.

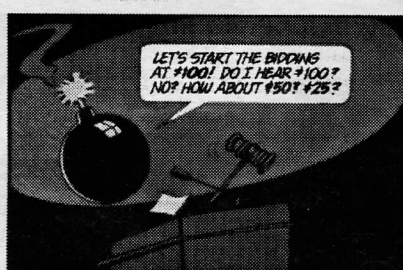
Can you believe the gall of these guys? Trying to coopt the CD-wing of the movement—the only part still sporting a pulse. We must never forget that if it wasn't for the Earth First! stand at Bald Mountain in 1983, the big greens would happily have settled for Carter's (another speak-no-evil-of-Democrat) RARE II death sentence on virtually all the old growth that still stands.

The failed lobby and litigate strategy of the nationals is wholly to blame for our current situation, yet the same laundry list of losers behind these feckless tactics have the audacity to dictate to those whose actions have kept our tiny flame of hope alive! The same people who have stood up to a multi-billion dollar timber-industrial complex and its captive bureaucracy are hardly going to shut up and be good Germans on the say so of DC desk jockeys—especially as the life support system is cynically sold out. Maybe it's time for a little White House CD (And a lock-down at the Wilderness Society and/or Pew while we're at it.)

Is it any wonder that in the new movie *The American President*, the "save the spotted owl lobby" is ridiculed as the epitome of ineptness.

A Bright Beacon

At least some in the media get it. Gary Trudeau has done more in a January week's worth of *Doonesbury* panels to educate Americans about what's happening to their public lands than the big greens have done in a decade. Check it out.



U.S. NATURAL RESOURCES LIQUIDATION AUCTION BID FORM

To: Rep. Newt Gingrich

☒ Yes! I would like to bid on some of the choice national assets now being liquidated by Congress.

LOT #147 - ALASKAN OLD-GROWTH FORESTS
Opportunity to clear-cut 500-year-old trees. Valued at \$50,000 a tree; suggested bid: \$1.60 a tree. MY BID: _____

LOT #165 - WILDERNESS MINERAL RIGHTS
Opportunity to mine pristine wilderness area. Valued at \$1 billion+; suggested bid: \$1200. MY BID: _____

LOT #275 - PRIME WESTERN GRAZING LAND
Opportunity to denude taxpayer-maintained range land. Market value: \$15.30 per cow and calf per month. Suggested bid: \$1.61. MY BID: _____

Name _____ State _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Signature _____

SEND TO: The Speaker of the House, U.S. Congress, Washington, D.C. 20515 OR CALL: (202) 225-3121 OR FAX: (202) 225-7733

FOREST SERVICE PLAYS WITH FIRE NWEA BIDS ITS TIME

BY MITCH FRIEDMAN

When all else fails, buy it. Or at least you can try. This was the the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance's (NWEA) approach to saving vital wildlands threatened by a timber sale placed above the law by the salvage rider.

The Thunder Mountain fire of 1994, one of Washington's highest profile fires, burned a 10,000-acre patchwork into the high-elevation lodgepole pine forests of the Long Swamp Roadless Area in the Okanogan National Forest. The Long Swamp provides habitat for one of the last lynx populations in the lower 48.

Potentially severe environmental impacts were clear from the outset. The watershed analysis for the Chewuck River, into which the area drains, noted that sediment levels were already impeding spawning of imperiled spring Chinook. Uncharacteristically, the Forest Service did not claim that salvaging from this fire area would have environmental benefits.

Given that the agency's only justification for designing the Thunder and Dog Salvage Sales was economic, it was a bit of a shock when, after the snow cleared enough for a summer field trip, timber companies expressed no interest in the timber to Forest Supervisor Sam Gehr. "There is almost no chance whatsoever, under current conditions, that Longview Fiber Company could even bid minimum base rates for the Thunder Mountain Fire Salvage....," said a letter to Gehr.

Despite staff recommendations to drop the sale planning effort and growing costs of well over \$200,000, Gehr decided to proceed. The Environmental Assessment for the sales was released shortly after President Clinton signed the Rescissions Bill, which bore the infamous "logging without laws" timber rider, and was therefore insulated from appeal and litigation under environmental laws.

When the sales were advertised, we had no option but to consider bidding for the contract. Both Thunder and Dog were being offered at the unbelievable minimum bid of \$4.25 per thousand board feet (about 30 cents per tree), so that purchasing the forest seemed an option. Both sales were auctioned in October, but due to their remoteness, poor wood quality, and a depressed timber market, Dog received no bids and Thunder received only one—ours.

The Forest Service ruled that our bid was "unresponsive" because it had been sent to a district office rather than the forest headquarters. Our bidding effort did receive a wave of press attention. Even the conservative *Omak Chronicle* gave front page coverage, stating that, "The Forest Service is operating a soup kitchen for timber companies." However, John Townsley, the Forest Service's silviculturist, defended the sale: "The reason we have timber sales isn't

(only) to provide money to the government...These sales generate a lot of jobs that are directly associated with logging and milling."

Though the Dog Sale died, Thunder refused to. The Okanogan National Forest redesigned Thunder to be more attractive to timber purchasers, and also more destructive to the environment. Most noteworthy, the revisions would allow using fellerbunchers on steeper slopes, which would damage soils but reduce helicopter yarding costs. The sale was auctioned again in December, but this time we had to outbid Omak Wood Products, Vaagen Brothers Lumber and AA Logging.

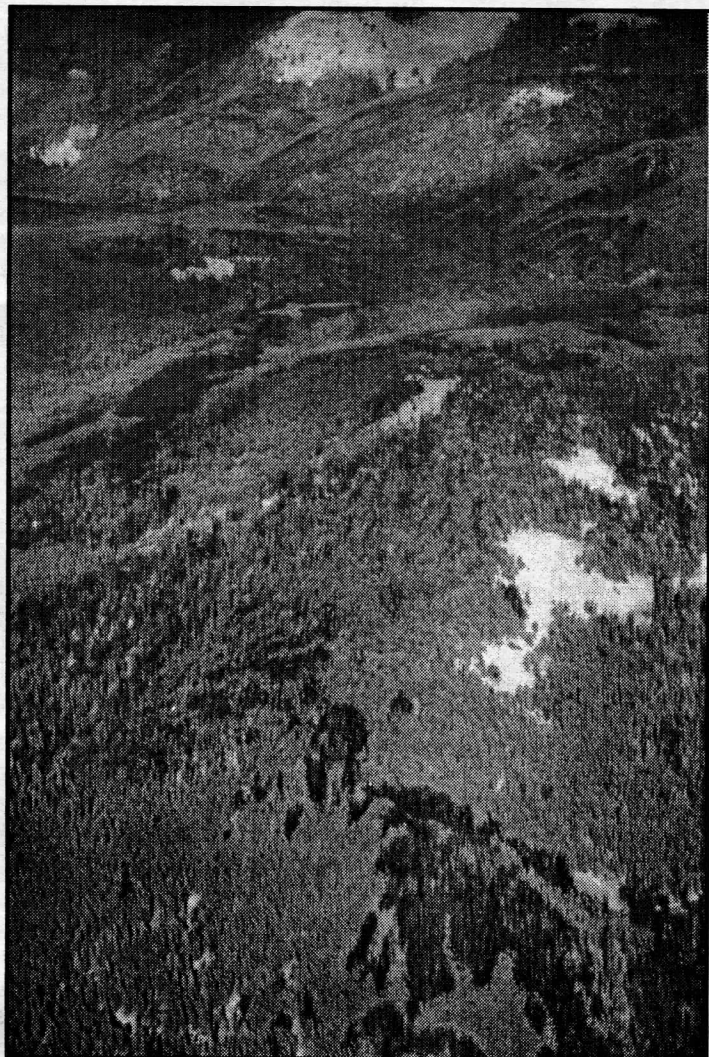
We carefully submitted our bid this time, making sure to include a bid guarantee check (\$1,500) and get each detail right to qualify. At the close of bidding, we had won at the price of \$8.25 per thousand board feet, or about \$100 per acre. At this cost, the entire 275 acres of wild forest would be ours for under \$30,000!!! People have asked me where we would get the money, but for such an incredible value, I would re-mortgage my own home if needed, and NWEA members and the public have responded generously.

What next? We don't know because the Forest Service has been on furlough since the auction. Our intention is to pay up but to renegotiate contract terms to allow the trees to stand. Since such an arrangement is unprecedented, valid questions have arisen such as duration of the contract, management responsibilities and bonding requirements. However, the biggest question is whether the Forest Service will even award us the sale.

The agency does reserve the right to refuse bids, and they were tendering a "logging contract," after all. Nonetheless, refusing our bid would place the Forest Service in the uncomfortable position of saying, "We won't take your money because you refuse to cut our forests, silt our streams and damage lynx habitat."

Reasons for the Forest Service to accept our offer include basic fairness in contracting, and that there are no environmental benefits, only costs, to logging the sale. As for the jobs argument, it is equally valid to say that more jobs and economic growth are being created in local communities by virtue of the forest remaining wild and providing the quality setting that draws visitors and new residents and businesses to the area. The driving force of the West's new economy is environmental, not extractive.

While we await the return of federal workers to discover our fate, we at NWEA proceed under the assumption that the sale is ours. Apparently, the timber industry is making the same assumption.



Aerial view of Long Swamp Roadless Area after the fire

Duane Vaagen, President of Vaagen Brothers Lumber, stated in a recent affidavit (in *NW Forest Council versus Glickman*), "We attempted to purchase a 3.5 million board feet timber sale on the Okanogan National Forest on December 20, 1995, but the sale was purchased by an environmental group." (Vaagen was third highest bidder.)

Clearly, the best result for all concerned would be for the Forest Service to take our money, not require the usual (but in this case pointless) bonds, and allow us to protect the trees for the length of a rotation, maybe 100 years. This event is also cause for the Forest Service to revisit its policies that generate contracts which destroy public forests and enlarge the budget deficit. Congress should do the same.

Mitch Friedman is the Executive Director of the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance.

You can "adopt-an-acre" in support of NWEA's effort to buy conservation rights to Thunder Mountain. Send \$100 for each acre of lodgepole pine and lynx habitat you wish to adopt. NWEA will give you a membership free. POB 2813, Bellingham, WA 98227.

HATFIELD SHUTS OUT DEMOCRACY

BY PATRICK MAZZA

Democracy was shut down at Portland's World Trade Center one day in early December, systematically from the central control panel. Forty demonstrators had arrived at the skyscraper Dec. 8 to hand a message to Sen. Mark Hatfield's office on the 14th floor: Repeal the Logging Rider which has shut the democratic process out of decisions regarding public forests and effectively repealed environmental laws safeguarding endangered species. Building security was prepared to shut out even this petition for redress of grievances. On seeing demonstrators approach the building, they turned off elevators and closed stairwells at one of the busiest hours of the day, lunch time.

A security official confronted demonstrators in the lobby: "Two of you can go up to the 14th floor. But I cannot have you going up disrupting the business of this complex," apparently blind to the irony that it was his own people who were really screwing up normal circulation in the 15-story high-rise.

"What makes you think we're going up to disrupt normal business?," a demonstrator responded. "This is business," said another. "Most of us are citizens of Oregon and I think Hatfield has a responsibility to hear us," chimed in a third.

"That's their request," responded the building security man. In other words, to avert their ears from the legitimate grievances of 40 citizens, Hatfield's own staff was willing to disrupt the daily lives of 2,000 people working in a downtown skyscraper—not to mention disrupt traffic as Portland Police closed off a block of Salmon Street outside. Citizens exerting democratic rights were to be treated as if they were a threat equivalent to the gunman who terrorized the KOIN Tower some weeks later.

But Hatfield and his staff had already shut public process out of millions of acres of public land. Shutting down a skyscraper and street must by comparison have seemed minor inconveniences to impose on the public. Mark Hatfield may have a reputation as the "Peace Senator". But when it comes to forests, St. Mark is a timber hawk, his

devastation of the Northwest forest landscape akin to Lyndon Johnson's firebombing of the Vietnamese jungle. And LBJ was never too concerned with democratic process either.

Ultimately, even the offer to let two representatives rise to the inner sanctum on the 14th floor proved hollow. Repeated requests from demonstrators were met with promises an escort would soon arrive. They might as well have been waiting for Godot.

The protesters, shut out but not defeated, continued their demonstration in the lobby. They sang "The Twelve Days of the Salvage Rider" and proceeded with street theatre. Hundreds of passers-by were educated on the evils of the salvage rider, and the media got the message out further, even mentioning Hatfield's undemocratic practices.

Patrick Mazza edits *Cascadia Planet*, a World Wide Web site covering Pacific Northwest ecological news and views <<http://www.tnews.com>>.



NORTHEAST VICTORY

In a surprising victory for the northeastern United States, a federal judge in Vermont has enjoined clearcutting and road building in the Green Mountain National Forest because the United States Forest Service (USFS) has violated environmental law. In a decision issued December 14, 1995, Chief Judge J. Gravin Murtha enjoined logging of over 1,000 acres of federal forest in Vermont until the USFS conducts a lengthy environmental impact statement on the area. The agency has strongly resisted all efforts to conduct the review.

The case is a major victory for the coalition of groups, including Green Mountain Forest Watch, Conservation Law Foundation and the Sierra Club, which filed the lawsuit in 1994 to stop clearcutting and road building in an area of the National Forest called "Lamb Brook." This is a remote 5,000-acre area home to black bears and many songbirds. The Forest Service has conducted only a perfunctory Environmental Assessment for the area, saying that cutting, road building, illegal off-road vehicle use and human contact would not significantly affect area wildlife. The court disagreed, saying the Forest Service failed to adequately and completely investigate increased human pressures on the area. Judge Murtha found that the Forest Service misrepresented the intensity of the proposed logging and roading. Because the current USFS plan establishes a precedent which will require an unclear amount of future tree removal, preparation of an EIS was found to be appropriate.

Environmentalists praised the decision. Finally, the federal courts have made it clear that conservationists are right and the Forest Service is wrong. The decision hopefully means that Vermont's forests will no longer be sacrificed to ill-conceived federal logging plans. "It just goes to show in our democratic society citizens have the ability to effectively challenge the actions of government agencies... provided they have three years of their life to devote to it and can raise fifty-thousand dollars," said Mathew Jacobson, Executive Director of Green Mountain Forest Watch.



Grizzly Flats Slated To Die

Grizzly Flat, located off Corralitos Creek above the city of Watsonville in central California, is slated to be cut starting on April Fool's Day. Of course, the biggest fools are the City Council of Watsonville, who have tried from the start to ram this proposal down the throats of the citizens of the central coast without a public hearing. Owned by the City of Watsonville, Grizzly Flat is a unique watershed property situated on the San Andreas Fault Zone. It forms the basis for Watsonville's water supply from Corralitos Creek.

Grizzly Flat was last logged at the turn of the century and the redwood and Douglas fir trees are just now starting to show the first signs of maturity. The associated wetlands are home to many species that live in the "sag pond" formed by the fault. The steep slopes are prone to landslides and high rainfall on the west-facing slopes poses severe erosion hazards.

One would think this special place would be protected and preserved. Citizens for Responsible Forest Management (CRFM) filed a lawsuit asking the court to stop the proposed destruction of Grizzly Flat, but the suit was denied last fall. CRFM is considering an appeal but currently lacks the funds to do so.

With less than three months to go before the road building and tree cutting begins, there is little time for forest lovers to delay. Plan now to defend the little bit of wilderness left in the central coast range. Talk to your friends in Watsonville and ask them to call the City Council or attend meetings and speak out against cutting Grizzly Flat. Prepare for blockades, tripod and tree-sits, lockdowns and other non-violent opposition to the destruction of Grizzly Flat.

Earth First! Santa Cruz is issuing an urgent request for activists to come to Watsonville in late March to help stop the destruction of Grizzly Flat. This little "Headwaters" needs a hundred or more activists to come to Santa Cruz and aid us in this fight, as so many Santa Cruz activists have done on the North Coast for years. For more information contact Earth First! Santa Cruz at POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061, or call the EF!SC Hotline at (408)425-3205.



Monitoring for fun

BY NAT

Well, shit! We're out here in Cove/Mallard, it's 20 degrees, and the wood is too wet to make a decent fire. There's a pissed-off log hauler down the hill shooting at us. And dammit, I forgot the brandy again.

In September, Ibhor Mereszczak, acting Freddy Superintendent, turned down a request by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies (AWR), Inland Empire Public Lands Council (IEPLC), and the Ecology Center for a special permit to monitor areas in the closure at Cove/Mallard.

Ibhor said the area was closed due to illegal activities. The enviros responded that their groups hadn't done anything illegal, and they weren't planning to; they simply wanted to monitor the area, which was their job. As members of the public, they had the right to do so. They were even willing to be escorted by Freddies while in the closure. The response was still no, no, no. "But be assured," said the Freddies, "we are out there working with the sales and we know we are complying with the laws!"

Next the enviros requested access to the project files. Now, in most Freddy offices, you can go in and peruse the files to get info on timber sales or whatever. It's public domain. Not at the Red River Ranger District (RRRD). Our enviro heroes were told that physical access to the files was out of the question. Shows you how dang dumb those Freddies are. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), even the RRRD beasts have to share their stuff.

Ibhor said he and his Freddy cohorts were trying to be totally honest with us, and were not trying to hide anything. Let's see. . . won't let us into the closed area even with Freddy escorts, won't let us look through the files. Yeah, right!

Mysteriously, in early October, the Freddies lifted the closure. In went the enviros. Monitoring was started by IEPLC, AWR, Ecology Center, and the Cove/Mallard Coalition.

Scoping out the Jack Sale road, they found numerous riparian buffer violations in the still unlogged units. There was also lots of sediment pouring out of culverts in the road.

The enviros also investigated the Noble sale. Units 9, 11, 12, and 17 have all been logged. In all units, there were violations of the timber sale contract. Trees were cut that weren't supposed to be cut, there were inadequate numbers of snags left, leave trees were damaged by equipment, and there were inadequate buffers in riparian areas.

In early November, Gary and I looked at the Jack road. The day we arrived, we skirted a log yarder parked in the road. We were immediately confronted by one pissed-off logger. He wanted to know what we were doing. We said we were monitoring for an environmental group. "Let's see your credentials!" he yelled. He was convinced that the road was still closed to the public. We made camp, and heard shots. Seemed like he was trying to scare us cuz he had to leave his precious yarder alone for the night.

Next day we got excellent video of muddy creeks and buffer violations. Several creeks were running clear above the road and were full of gooey muck below. There were piles of slash below the road, apparently to keep sediment from going further downstream. These absolutely failed; 60 feet downstream, there was still lots of sediment in the creeks.

We saw the buffer and riparian zone violations described in the other monitoring trip. The watersheds we documented all feed into Big Mallard Creek, an important cold water refuge for migrating chinook salmon.

There is no logging or roadbuilding going on currently, but we expect them to start any time. Between March 15 and June 15 they cannot log because of elk calving season.

The documentation by activists is being used as part of a lawsuit against logging in Cove/Mallard that is about to be heard in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. To get involved contact the CMC (see directory).

good news for Idaho black bears

BY KATHY RICHMOND

The 1996 Idaho Black Bear Initiative has been introduced by the Idaho Coalition United for Bears. The goal is to collect 42,000 registered voters' signatures by May 1, 1996 to get a measure on the 1996 ballot to reform black bear hunting practices in Idaho.

The Black Bear Initiative would accomplish three things. First, it would eliminate the spring hunt. This is when sows come out of hibernation with their cubs. Hunting females with nursing cubs is already illegal, but, many hunters cannot tell the difference between a sow and a boar as she often does not have cubs with her. Second, it would eliminate the use of baiting stations. At these stations hunters build a platform in a tree and litter the ground with donuts, deer parts, etc., then shoot the bear when it comes to eat. Third, it would eliminate using hounds to hunt bears. Hunters use the dogs to chase a bear into a tree. The hunter then goes to the bottom of the tree and shoots the bear at point blank range. These are not fair hunting practices.

The initiative is an attempt to reform black bear hunting in Idaho. There are many people in Idaho who would like to see bear hunting be more like deer and elk hunting. After all, you cannot hunt deer and elk in the spring, nor can you use hounds to chase ungulates. You cannot use salt licks and alfalfa to bait deer and elk. This issue is about giving the bear a fair chance. Did you know that Idaho is the only state in the contiguous US that permits all three of these unsportsmanlike hunting practices?

Of the 27 states that allow bear hunting, six permit spring hunts, 10 permit baiting, and 19 permit hound hunting. Only five percent of bear hunters use hounds, but they take 18 percent of the bears. Montana discontinued the use of hounds for bear hunting in 1921 and baiting for bear in 1948. This is not an anti-bear hunting initiative. It will allow a fall season hunt. It is about giving bears a chance. If you are interested in collecting signatures or would like more information, contact Idaho Coalition United for Bears, POB 1456, Boise, ID 83701-1456; phone (208)345-8259; email:icub@moscow.com.

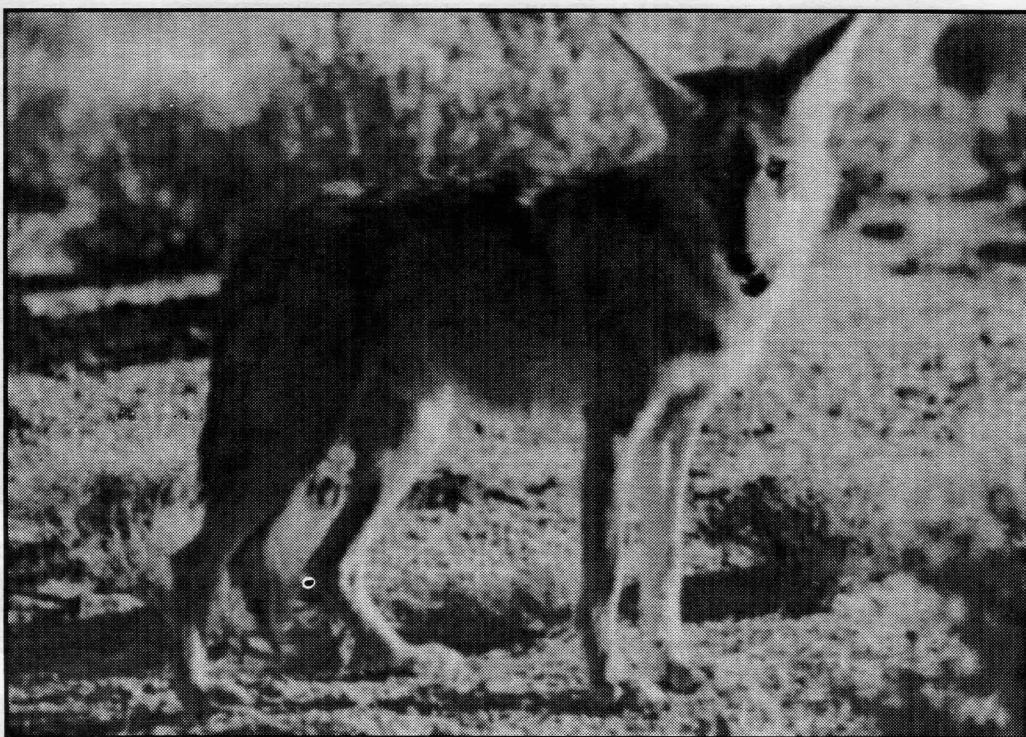


Photo by S. Michael Bicegile

Coyote Slaughter Planned

The Hart Mountain Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon plans to kill a large number of coyotes this spring. This will be the first year in a three-year program determined to exterminate coyotes in the area.

State employees are blaming decreasing antelope herd sizes on coyotes. Many local activists believe

this is an overreaction to the normal fluctuations and migration of the herds.

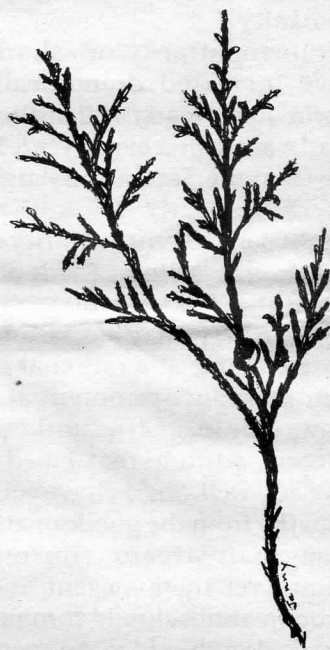
Urgent attention is needed. Please write the Hart Mountain Wildlife Refuge, POB 111, Lakeview, OR 97630. Hopefully appeals and letters from the public will stop this bloodbath before it happens. Otherwise, be prepared to join a hunt sabatoge.

UTAH'S ANTI-WILDERNESS BILL MISFIRES...

In a stunning Christmas gift to Utah environmentalists, Representative James Hansen, R-Utah, unceremoniously yanked the Utah BLM (anti)Wilderness Bill, HR 1745, off the House floor on December 14. He had discovered that 46 Republicans would likely support the HR 1500 Utah Wilderness Coalition proposal, an amendment to the bill which would protect 5.7 million acres of wilderness in Utah. This is only the beginning of the war to save Utah's wilderness.

Ironically, environmentalists were unable to raise the BLM wilderness issue on the Democratic radar screen and were rescued by moderate Republicans opposing the Utah bill, forcing Hansen to abandon the House vote. The environmentalists have been left feeling grateful but confused, wondering who their real political friends are.

The battle for BLM wilderness is not over and will likely go on for a long time. The question of what's next becomes significant. Let's hope the Utah delegation will get the picture and start next year's wilderness debates with HR 1500. We must continue to insist on at least 5.7 million acres.



SALVAGE FLOGGING COMES TO THE GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

During a packed public hearing in Bozeman, Montana in mid-December, the Gallatin National Forest Service announced a nasty new twist on lawless logging. In order to quell mounting local opposition, the Forest Service has found a way to tie salvage sales into land acquisition deals.

The Gallatin Land Consolidation Program is designed to follow Public Law 103-91. This law was enacted in 1993 to provide a way for the federal government to acquire the extensive "checkerboard" private inholdings on the Gallatin National Forest. These inholdings are the nightmare legacy of 19th century land grants to companies that built transcontinental railroads (see George Draffan and John Osborne's recently released book *Railroads and Clearcuts*). Round 1 of the land exchange, still in progress, will acquire private sections on the Gallatin Range crest and in the criti-

cally important Porcupine drainage. Big Sky Lumber (BSL), current owners of most of the Gallatin inholdings, subdivided all their holdings into 20-acre parcels immediately after acquiring them from Plum Creek Timber. By threatening to sell off prime wildlife habitat and recreation lands for residential development, BSL is blackmailing the federal government and the public into paying exorbitant prices for inholdings. BSL has received around \$12 million for their holdings in Porcupine Creek. Meanwhile, they are logging the inholdings they still have (72,000 acres) before the next round of the Land Consolidation Program allows them to sell the land to the public at inflated prices. Through land exchanges, they also now own former public lands in places like the North Bridger Range and are logging the crap out of them before selling the roads and clearcuts back to the public.

Eager to both continue the Land Consolidation Program and push

through old timber sales under the salvage rider, the Gallatin National Forest has cleverly combined the two, gladly bending over for BSL all the while. Up to 60 million board feet of public forest are to be offered to BSL as part of the land exchange, nearly half of that from the Gallatin Forest. Public forest will be sold as salvage to BSL to pay them for inholdings they have already logged, some of which were roadless public forests just a few years ago. The Freddies love it because logged-over land acquired from private owners goes into the forest's timber base already ineligible for wilderness designation. This way the private landowner takes the heat for logging roadless areas, instead of the Forest Service.

Forty million board feet of timber sales are planned on the Gallatin for fiscal years '96 thru '99, a huge increase in logging on this popular forest. A majority of the sales are slated for the heavily impacted Gallatin

Range south of Bozeman. Over 15 million board feet are to be offered as salvage sales in '96 and '97, including the controversial Hyalite sale, subject of a public rally in Bozeman last November. BSL will acquire over 16 million board feet in '97 and '98. Several old timber sales, successfully opposed in the past by local citizens, are being dredged up and packaged as salvage.

The Hyalite II salvage sale will continue to be the focus of local organizing efforts in southwest Montana, but other evil sales, such as Appaloosa and Wheeler Ridge, must be opposed as well. The Native Forest Network will be working with Citizens Against Lawless Logging to build public awareness of and opposition to lawless logging in this corner of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Please help! Contact the Native Forest Network, POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59771-6151, e-mail: nfn@igc.apc.org.

—NATIVE FOREST NETWORK

SHARKS: ANCIENT PREDATORS STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

Doug Perrine/Innerspace Visions-Miami

BY GREG JODER

Sharks are an evolutionary success story—the first shark-like creatures appeared nearly 350 million years ago during the Paleozoic era. The existence of sharks today reflects their ability to adapt to a myriad of changing environmental conditions over an immense span of time. Sharks have survived ice ages, meteorite impacts and many other major ecological disruptions which may have spelled doom for other, less-adaptive species. Now, however, their survival is threatened by the rapacious greed and hunger of humanity.

Human attacks on sharks have increased dramatically worldwide. Nearly 100 million sharks are killed every year. In the US alone, recreational fishers catch nearly 2.5 million sharks per year, the majority of which are killed. Evidence shows that the US commercial shark fishery may be killing large coastal sharks at a rate that exceeds their reproductive potential.

Jaws is dead. But the unthoughtful, ignorant attitude that killed him is alive and well. Sharks have yet to earn empathy from the public or attention from mainstream conservation groups, yet these elegant and enigmatic creatures should command our respect. We should make every effort necessary to ensure their long term survival. As the top oceanic predator, sharks are no less important than the top terrestrial predators we so actively defend, such as wolves, grizzlies and mountain lions.

Today, there are nearly 350 species of sharks ranging in diversity from the six-inch Caribbean dwarf dog shark to the gentle whale shark, which may reach 60 feet in length and feeds primarily on plankton, krill and anchovies. In between are the requiem sharks, many of which are the target of recreational and commercial fisheries. Sharks such as the dusky, sandbar, lemon, blacktip, thresher, white, and the hammerhead are slow to reproduce, have a high natural juvenile mortality, and may take 15 to 30 years to reach maturity. These characteristics are similar to endangered marine turtles and baleen whales and contribute to a low reproductive rate which increases a species' risk of extinction when the natural population balance is destroyed by human exploitation.

Bays, lagoons, and estuarine systems are the cradle for millions of marine plants and animals, including many shark species. Together, they create a marvelously complex

system in which each species is dependent on another in a web of relationships not wholly understood by biologists. And, like our National Forests, these coastal areas have been compromised to death.

The official term "mitigation" is used to soothe the unwary into believing that it's possible to replace

...massive overfishing, when combined with the cumulative effects of coastal habitat loss and marine pollution, is setting the stage for an ecological crisis beyond the scope of human understanding.

living seagrass beds, mangrove forests, salt marshes, or hardbottom habitat with a pier, hotel, or shipping channel. Mitigation has created a growing net loss to coastal habitat, while perpetuating the illusion that humans can duplicate the complex biological, chemical, and physical processes of nature.

As early as 1986, the increasing demand for shark products caused the Regional Fishery Management Councils, established under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, to cite a need for further shark research to support more responsible shark fishery management. In Asian countries there is an increased demand for shark fins for soup. Shark liver oil continues to be used by cosmetics producers and shark skin is tanned and used for leather products internationally. Recently, cancer and arthritis patients have taken to ingesting shark cartilage pills, with the producers suggesting a remedy for their ills. The Mote Marine Laboratory's Center for Shark Research in Sarasota has revealed, through testing on animals, that there is no direct evidence that shark cartilage pills cure or even affect cancer or arthritis-infected tissues.

Although it was clear early on that commercial shark catches were increasing due to this demand (nearly doubling every year after 1985), and the entry of vessels into the fishery was unregulated, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) waited until 1993 to implement the Atlantic Shark Fishery Management Plan (FMP) which delineated yearly quotas based on past catch and effort data.

The National Marine Fisheries Service developed the shark FMP over a four-year period and implemented the final draft in 1993. The implementation of the shark FMP was seen as a necessary step in managing the until-then unregulated fishery. And, indeed, the shark FMP was desperately needed. The unnecessarily long development period of the shark FMP may have contributed to the 60 to 80 percent population decline of sharks common to the mid-Atlantic region. Several biologists estimated that large coastal sharks were being killed at twice the rate of "maximum sustainable yield" (MSY); that is, sharks were being killed faster than they could reproduce. NMFS recognized that large coastal sharks were overfished and that populations were estimated to be below their MSY, yet has continued to set quotas derived from inadequate surplus-production models that will not achieve the goals of the shark

FMP rebuilding program. These quotas, which are biased toward short-term economic health, disregard the long-term biological consequences of overfishing.

In 1994 NMFS held a Shark Evaluation Workshop (SEW) to determine the status of the shark fishery. Biologists from NMFS and academia gathered to review the existing data. They determined that the existing data did not support a quota increase for the large coastal shark fishery in 1995 and, in fact, recommended a decrease in quotas to 1993 levels. The members of the SEW also determined that "catch per unit effort, average weights, and species richness have declined throughout the period of data availability... Based on these types of information, the committee judged that the current [quota at 1993 levels] would not lead to stock

rebuilding by the end of the century." The 1994 SEW concluded that "Increasing the [quota] might be considered risk prone with respect to promoting stock..." and allowing "...any [quota] might be considered risk prone."

In late 1995 biologists warned that following the shark FMP guidelines would allow population declines for the large coastal sharks to continue. The effects of achieving the targeted mortality (annual quota) in the large coastal shark fishery have become glaringly apparent, as seen by the documented population collapse of dusky sharks and the severe population decline of sandbar sharks in the Chesapeake Bay region of the Atlantic ocean. The Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) has conducted long-line surveys in the Chesapeake bay region and has documented a 60 to 80 percent population decline for both the dusky and sandbar sharks over the last 10 years. Using the International Union for the Conservation of Nature criteria for listing the status of species, populations of sandbar sharks in the Western North Atlantic would be classified as "Critically Endangered" due to such severe declines. A large historical population and the targeting of juvenile and sub-adults is the sole reason sandbar sharks continue to support a commercial fishery in this region.

VIMS reported the collapse of dusky shark populations and the Shark Evaluation Workshop biologists recommended a lower quota for the large coastal shark management unit (in which the sandbar and dusky sharks are lumped with 20 other species for commercial convenience), and yet the NMFS turned a blind eye and increased the quota. It was only a five-percent increase, but an increase still, which disregarded scien-

continued on next page



Baby hammerheads removed from mother's stomach. The mother was killed in a shark-fishing tournament.

Doug Perrine/Innerspace Visions-Miami

SHARKS THREATENED

continued from previous page

tifically sound recommendations based on the best existing data available. NMFS said of its decision, "NMFS believes that the five percent reduction in quotas necessary to return to the 1993 level could have a large negative impact on the large coastal shark fishing industry." In this way NMFS made a clear statement of priority, placing economics before biological imperative, and placing several shark species at even greater risk. Dr. J. A. Musick of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science recently reported: "Even if the fishery were completely closed, stock recovery of the sandbar shark and other large coastal species in the western North Atlantic would take several decades."

Regulations to prevent or reduce bycatch must be enacted and enforced. In 1991, the Gulf of Mexico tuna long-line fleet had an estimated 3,217 metric tons of bycatch representing at least 18 different shark species. The

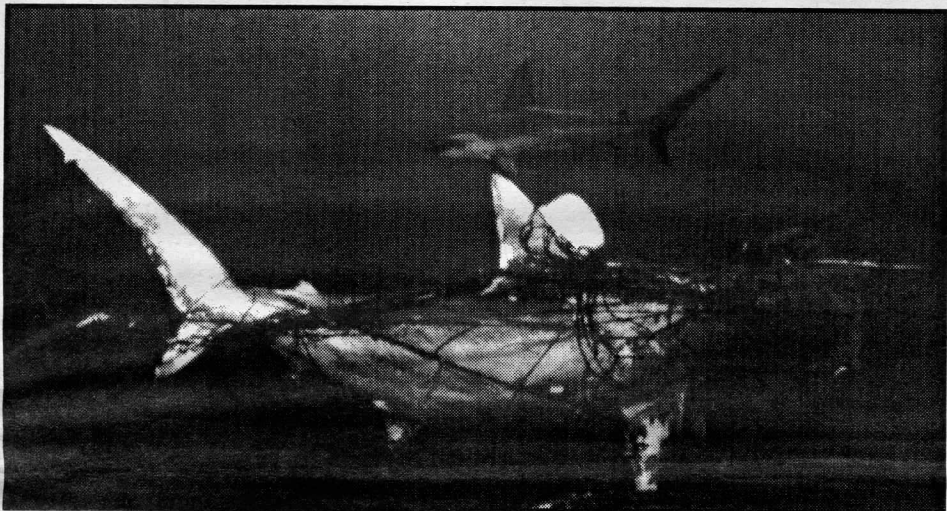
mated biological maximum sustainable yield. This massive overfishing, when combined with the cumulative effects of coastal habitat loss and marine pollution, is setting the stage for an ecological crisis beyond the scope of human understanding.

Without strong public input, federal agencies will continue to bow to the commercial fishing industry's pressure to maintain or increase quotas, quotas that cannot be biologically sustained. In the past, this pressure has led to overfishing and the collapse of entire fisheries, which ultimately cost those very fishers their jobs. Many conservation organizations have won public support for efforts to protect a few popular marine animals. This tide must turn to include the many "non-charismatic" marine species and ecosystems that are falling through the cracks, unnoticed by environmental groups and federal agencies. Actions by grassroots



Doug Perrine/Imagospace Visions-Miami

Shark fins ready for market in Trinidad, West Indies



Doug Perrine/Imagospace Visions-Miami

Scalloped hammerhead illegally caught in net, Galapagos Marine Reserve

Gulf of Mexico shrimp trawl fishery has nearly 3,000 metric tons of small coastal shark bycatch per year. These unwanted, non-target species are simply thrown overboard dead or dying as waste. Threatened and endangered sea turtles are often part of this bycatch as well as imperiled fish species such as the weakfish (sea trout), which is in danger of population collapse due to overfishing from the directed commercial harvest.

Sustainable "harvest" is an illusion for any fishery. With fisheries worldwide, including those in US waters, collapsing from overfishing and habitat degradation, bycatch is only a minor problem. The truth is that there is no environmentally friendly way of removing huge numbers of fish from the sea. And that's exactly what is happening. With minimal regard for the long-term biological health of the oceans, predator/prey relationships or ecosystem dynamics, many US fisheries are being fished above the esti-

organizations, such as the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's 1993 defense of the North Atlantic groundfish populations in the Grand Banks ecosystem, has brought public and governmental attention to the desperate need for ecosystem protection.

As time passes, it will become apparent to the public that the ocean is more than a playground for Flipper and Willy. It may dawn on them then that they have been duped for hundreds of millions of dollars by mainstream conservation groups and federal agencies who continue to be swayed by compromise.

As long as there is a demand for shark meat and fins, the issues facing shark management will remain complex. The National Marine Fisheries Service has been lagging in its duty as custodians and managers of North America's great marine ecosystems. Fishery managers must put economics aside and begin to manage all sharks and their marine habitat in a

biologically sound manner. Currently, NMFS manages each species as if it lives in a vacuum, lacking any dependence on other species within a given ecosystem. Only when a species declines to the point of being threatened or endangered is NMFS forced to take action for the recovery and conservation of that species.

For sharks, biologically sound management should entail a detailed understanding of the life-history patterns of both sharks and their prey, as well as understanding the role of coastal and pelagic nursery habitat and feeding areas for predator and prey species alike. The next step should be the closure of the large coastal shark fisheries until there are documented signs of individually depleted species recovering to their historic population levels. Finally, NMFS should ban the export of shark fins, meat, and leather from US waters.

The National Marine Fisheries Service should strive to take the lead in shark conservation and habitat protection. Fishery management plans should integrate the best scientific data available with the concepts of conservation biology in order to foster a greater understanding of ecosystem dynamics and species interrelationships.

Under the care of current management by the National Marine Fisheries Service the fate of many shark species remains to be seen. It is imperative that federal and state agencies, the public, and commercial and recreation fishers look at the sea as a complex system that exists in a precarious balance with finite limits. As a culture, we must re-evaluate our relationship with the Earth and seek to restore the balance. The idea that the world's oceans can provide endless and abundant "resources" and economic gain for the growing human population is a social disease and it must be cured if we are to move into the future with a healthy, diverse and wild Earth.

What you can do: Demand an immediate closure to the shark fishery to ensure the recovery of the dusky shark, sandbar shark and other declining species in the "large coastal shark management unit." Cite the regional collapse of dusky shark populations as an example of inadequate and irresponsible management. Write Richard Stone, Chief Highly Migratory Species Division National Marine Fisheries Service, 1335 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Take action! Coastal Activists can become active in Regional Fishery Management Council public meetings. Present logical and biologically sound arguments to every management issue effecting the marine animals and ecosystems of your region. Don't let the commercial recreational fishing industries go unchallenged in their destruction!

Support the Biodiversity Legal Foundation's efforts to protect marine species and ecosystems! For more information write: Greg Joder, Marine Conservation Coordinator, Biodiversity Legal Foundation 2004 8th St., Suite F Boulder, CO 80302.

Campaign against the sale of shark—you can help

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation has begun a campaign designed to educate consumers and retailers about the serious threat facing many shark populations today.

Despite the documented declines, retailers remain unaware and continue to sell shark products. The BLF believes that through its campaign it can effectively educate the offending parties of the peril facing these magnificent marine predators.

The most commonly sold products are shark fillets and shark cartilage pills. Sharkskin cowboy boots, wallets and other vanity items can be found as well. You can help the BLF in its shark conservation efforts by reporting establishments that sell shark "products." The BLF will then send an educational letter requesting that the shark product be discontinued. The letter will inform the establishment of the current crisis facing ocean ecosystems and the implications for sharks and their ocean habitat. The BLF will request the establishment's commitment to long-term conservation ideals, awareness and education.

To report a business with shark products on the menu or the shelves, please contact the Biodiversity Legal Foundation, 2004 8th St., Suite F, Boulder, CO 80302; phone (303) 443-5518. We will send you a copy of the letter sent to the establishment that you reported.

Wanted: Activists to work on coastal biodiversity issues

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation is in need of biologically and legally oriented activists to assist in its progressive and proactive Marine Conservation Program. Many creatures in our ocean's ecosystems are slipping through the cracks. You can help make a difference.

Work involves identification of seriously imperiled marine species, preparation of status reviews, conservation assessments, and appropriate challenges of inadequate management by agencies responsible for the caretaking of America's marine animals and their habitat.

Act now. Please call or write for the nitty gritty details: Marine Conservation Coordinator, Biodiversity Legal Foundation, 2004 8th St., Suite F, Boulder, CO 80302; phone (303) 443-5518.

DAM DERAILED IN CHILE

The largest private utility company in Chile, Endesa, is planning to construct six hydroelectric dams on the Bio Bío River. The first of these, Pangue, is already completed. Endesa now says it will move ahead with construction of the largest of the Bio Bío dams, called Ralco.

Ralco would be 155 meters high with a 3,400 hectare reservoir, which would displace 700 people, including 400 Pehuenche Indians. The Upper Bio Bío, where the Ralco dam is planned, is home to the Pehuenche group of the Mapuche Indians, who maintain their traditional lifestyle. The two dams would flood more than 70 kilometers of the river valley, inundating the richly diverse forest and its wildlife.

Environmental and Indigenous rights groups oppose the project not only because of the wide scale destruction it would cause, but also because projections of Chile's future energy requirements indicate that the energy it would produce will not be needed.

In late December, an unprecedented number of Chilean government authorities traveled to the Upper Bio Bío to hear the concerns of the Pehuenche Indians who oppose the dam and the current surveying work of Endesa, which is disruptive to their lifestyle and culture. Under the new Chilean Indigenous Peoples Law, the Pehuenche have the right to refuse to be evicted and relocated by Endesa.

Currently, Endesa's surveying permit has expired, but they are continuing work illegally. They are petitioning to continue surveying for the construction of Ralco, despite the fact that they haven't yet completed an environmental impact assessment for the project nor gained approval by the Chilean Environmental Protection Agency (CONAMA) to move forward with the project. The Pehuenche oppose the renewal of Endesa's license to survey and are not willing to waive their right to their lands for the relocation offer Endesa has proposed.

The visit by top Chilean officials was unusual in the number of government representatives who actually visited the remote villages of the affected Pehuenche. Included in the delegation were Vivianne Blanlot, executive director of CONAMA, Mauricio Huenchulaf, National Director of the Chilean Department of Indian Affairs (CONADI), CONADI representatives Juan Nanculef and Juan Huenupi, Senator Octavio Jara and Regional Environmental Protection agency director Bolivar Ruiz. Also present were the rector of the University of Concepcion, Monica Ehrenfeld of the Community Ecological Council of Los Angeles, Chile, Members of Grupo de Acción por el Bio Bío and numerous journalists.

At the meetings, the officials reiterated to the Pehuenche that the Ralco project has not yet been approved by the government and assured them of their legal right to refuse to leave their lands. Even so, the Pehuenche in attendance detailed numerous instances where Endesa had violated their rights by coming onto their lands without permission and misinforming them of the status of the Ralco project and of their right to oppose it.

In response to Pehuenche concerns, officials promised that they would watch vigilantly to ensure that Endesa would comply with all relevant laws. They proposed initiatives such as installing a team of CONAMA representatives in the area, informing the central government bodies of the infractions by Endesa in the Upper Bio Bío, and creating a mechanism to ensure adequate participation of the Pehuenche in the public review process of the Environmental Impact Assessment when it is complete. Endesa is expected to submit its EIA as early as the end of January.

The Quepuca Ralco community of Pehuenche has addressed a letter to Alvaro Garcia, Economic Minister whose governmental department oversees the Superintendency of Energy and Fuels, which has approved the petition renewal. The Inspector General of Chile has yet to make a decision regarding the renewal of the concession. The message details the Pehuenche's grievances against Endesa, including threats to establish new Endesa camps in the area.

Despite demonstrated opposition by community members, the Endesa-controlled Fundacion Pehuen (FP) is trying to extend the parameters of its legal charter to allow it to operate in the Pehuenche community of Ralco Lepoy. Fundacion Pehuen was established by Pangue, SA., the subsidiary of Endesa in charge of the dam projects in the Upper Bio Bío, on the advice of the World Bank. The chartered purpose of FP is to mitigate the negative impacts of the Pangue Dam on the culture of the Pehuenche in the area of Pangue. Instead, it has been used to promote the interests of Endesa.

In October 1994, the people of Ralco Lepoy voted against the presence of the FP in their community. Still, the FP has stayed, taking advantage of the isolation and of severe poverty in Ralco Lepoy. Now it appears that Endesa is trying to legalize its presence there.

Scientists from University of Concepcion in Valparaiso, Chile, recently stated that they have completed evaluating a monitoring study of the Pangue Dam project, with the conclusion that the study is inadequate. Their study is a result of a formal recommendation by the Chilean Congress, asking the President of Chile to protect the Upper Bio Bío and to monitor large-scale public works there. The President then asked Endesa to contract a "monitoring study" of the construction of Pangue and its impacts.

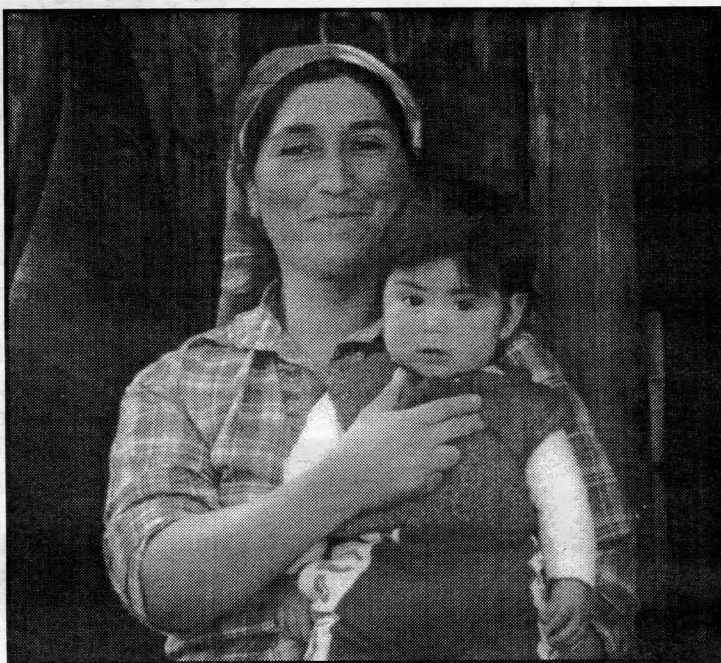
The evaluation was undertaken by University of Concepcion scientists at the request of the Regional Branch of Chile's National Fisheries Service (SERNAP). It states that Endesa's monitoring study is insufficient in many areas. The study makes no mention of the original state of the ecosystem, which has already been altered during the construction of Pangue. Nor does the evaluation address the impact that interrupting the river flow will have on fish species, nor how their populations will be maintained above and below the dam. In its conclusion, the evaluation states that the information provided is insufficient for political authorities to adequately assess the impact on fish species.

Please express your support for the Pehuenche to the following: Vivianne Blanlot, Directora Ejecutiva, Comision

Nacional de Medio Ambiente, fax 011-562-240-1262; Alvaro Garcia, Ministerio de Economia, Reconstruccion y Fomento, fax 56-2-696-6305; Eduardo Frei, Presidente de la Republica de Chile, fax 56-2-692-4020 or 56-2-690-4329 or leave a message at his home page on the World Wide Web: <http://www.presidencia.cl/>.

To contact Grupo de Acción por el Bio Bío write to Ernesto Pinto Lagarrigue 112, Recoleta, Santiago de Chile, +56-2-737-1420, fax +56-2-777-6414, e-mail: gabb@huelen.reuna.cl; translation and electronic distribution by International Rivers Network, 1847 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703, USA, (510) 848-1155, fax (510) 848-1008, e-mail: glenirn@igc.apc.org.

—GRUPO DE ACCIÓN POR EL BIO BÍO



Pehuenche people doing fine without electricity

photo by Cristian Ojeda/Grupo de Acción por el Bio Bío

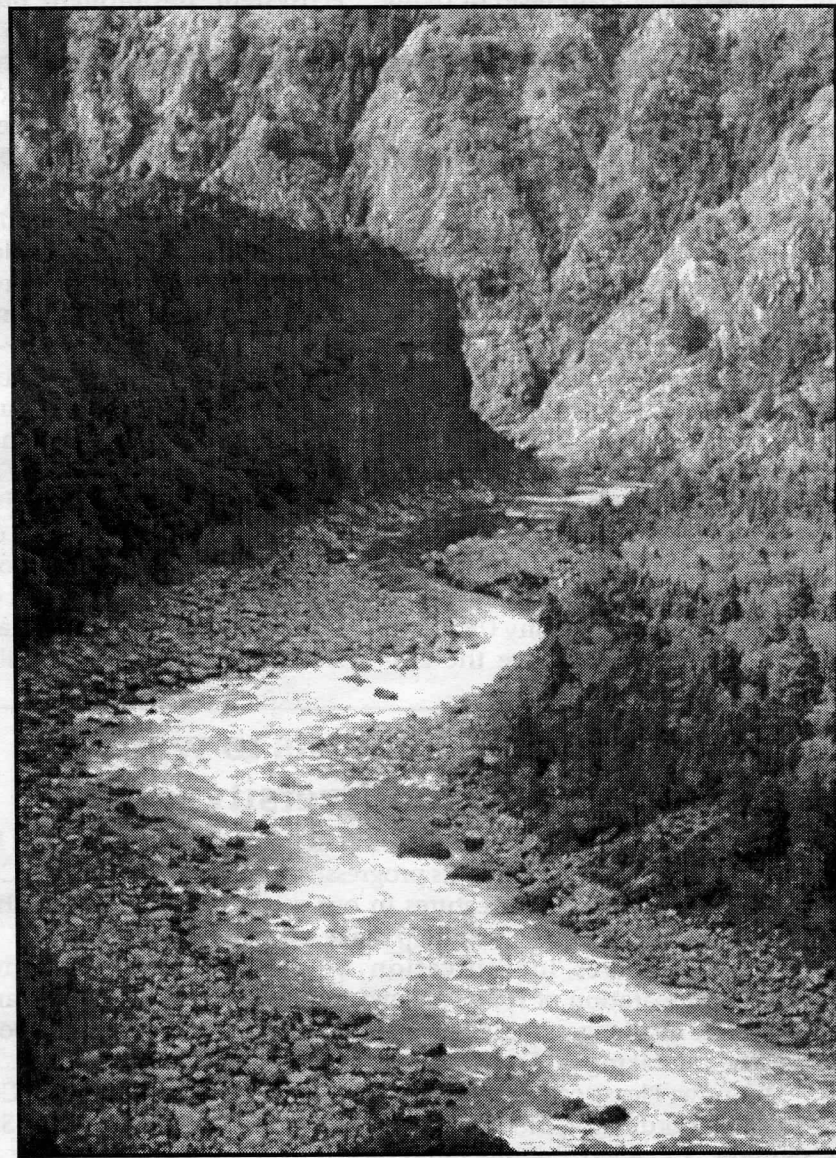


photo by Cristian Ojeda/Grupo de Acción por el Bio Bío

The Bio Bío River, Chile

ROAD RAILROADED IN ENGLAND

The beginning of work to build the Newbury Bypass Road in England saw the most well-prepared direct action in the UK swing into action on Tuesday, January 9. The proposed road would destroy three "environmentally protected" areas, an ancient battle site, and vast amounts of beautiful woodland and commons. Various activist groups have opposed the prospective road for years. Opposition has come not just from a coalition of environmental groups including Earth First! and Friends of the Earth, but also from historical battle reenactment groups and even local businesses.

About 100 people have been living in camps set up along the proposed route of the road for the last six months. They have also devised elaborate tree houses and tunnel networks to protect the land from any eco-destroyers. People intend to stay in the large, underground tunnel system for up to a month. Air has to be pumped down the tunnels because they are so far from the surface. Any heavy equipment driving over the tunnels would cause them to collapse.

The road builders are planning to complete the project within 2.5 years. With the money and time the activists will cost them there is little chance of that. There is also a strong level of mainstream political opposition to the route which has been fueled by direct activists.

On January 10, the first day of attempted road building started with a preemptive strike by the activists. In England, corporations are required to hire security to protect their activities from protestors; the police will not do it. The protestors started the day by blockading the security force's base at Sulhamstead Abbots with scaffolding tripods placed at either end of the lane.

The day after the successful blockade of the security force's base, the action moved to the proposed route of the bypass at Tot Hill where machines of destruction were trying to clear the site. The digger [backhoe], surrounded by a ring of security, was busy taking out trees. Surveyors with their theodolites were hanging around, waiting to start work. It was quite a fraught situation really. Direct activists who were surrounding the circle of security jumped into the hollows left by the digger and the first tree as it came out. There were probably about ten people in there. Occasionally security managed to drag someone out, but there were plenty of replacements managing to break through the security lines and get back in the holes.

One effective tactic was to provoke security by quoting some of the more ridiculous bits out of the briefing they were given at their barracks (covertly obtained by the protestors). For example, they were told that female protestors plait their underarm hair. Their employers also warned them that female protestors might try to push past them topless.

Playing on the conditions at the barracks for security personnel was also effective—they're allowed no drink, have got two showers between the lot of them, and are paid poorly. But the protestors also tried to appeal to better nature of the people—asking them if they had thought about the environmental impact of the road, and the fact that local people were conned into believing it will solve Newbury's traffic problems.

The main thing was to engage them in conversation, being polite, but also trying to wind them up a bit. The reaction varied: many didn't say anything, but many accepted food when offered.

By midday, the security tired and the protestors managed to push one particularly weak link in the chain back to the digger, and then break through it. Four or five people got under the main chassis and linked arms and legs. The contractors switched the digger off, and half an hour later they decided to stop work for the day. The security just couldn't get people out from under the digger. They could only get at people around the edge of the digger, and everyone under the digger was so well linked to their neighbours that trying to pull one person out was like trying to pull the whole lot out. Security escorted the digger out through the woodland and across the field onto the road, where a lorry picked it up half an hour later. Once again, an embarrassed

Highways Agency had to abandon work for the day.

After that, the protestors dispersed. They had been wholly nonviolent: When somebody went down and was in danger of being trampled, everybody on both sides stopped to let them get up, regardless of whether that person was security or a protestor.

On January 12, the police succumbed to massive political pressure and started using the notoriously unjust Criminal Justice Act (CJA). A decision no doubt made easier by extreme pro-bypass bias in some parts of the broadcast media the night before. A total of 35 nonviolent protestors were arrested for trying to stop Highways Agency-sponsored destruction at two sites along the route. Most of the arrests were for "Aggravated Trespass", in many cases a specious charge since the protestor in question was on a public footpath.

No destruction took place January 12 and 13; the Highways Agency took the weekend off. Massive numbers of supporters flooded in from all over the country. Excellent work was done in record time at the newly established Tot Hill camp to improve amenities and strengthen its defences. A tree planting at Tot Hill to reverse some of the damage done the previous week turned into a jazz party once the work was done.

On January 15, an increasingly desperate Highways Agency attempted to vandalize six sites. They went to Tot Hill twice but on both occasions were unable to work because of the sheer numbers of people there. They went to Penwood Lane and got one big tree and a few birches down before being stopped. They went to Mary Hare, were stopped,

and then pulled up their own fence posts! They grouped at Enborne Row, but were scared off by loads of people. They then went to Enbourne Road but didn't manage to get any trees down due to large numbers of people. Somebody locked onto the security coach, forcing them to walk there. Direct action held them off six sites.

People are still turning up for actions from around the country and six major environmental groups are joining together to back the protest. These include Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the World Wide Fund for Nature. This makes the whole thing even more sensitive politically as some of the groups such as the RSPB and WWFN have a large Tory membership--right-wingers teaming with environmentalists! Several of the subcontractors to build the road have dropped out this week after fears that the road may be scrapped. Even if it isn't the protests will cost them so much they won't be able to afford to continue operating. This was reported in the main UK construction journal. Things are looking good but more people are still desperately

needed up in trees and blocking work. Around 100 trees have already been cut down.

Whatever happens it looks set to be a long hot summer: If you're coming to the UK, join in.

For more information, contact Third Battle of Newbury, PO Box 5520, Newbury, RG14 7YW. UK 01635 45544; Earth First! Action Update, PO BOX 7, Cardiff, England CF2 4XX, phone (01222) 383363, e-mail: actionupdate@gn.apc.org; No Newbury Bypass Web Page: <http://www.gn.apc.org/newbury/>.



Union Carbide Busted

Twenty-five environment and human rights organizations across the US have demanded that Union Carbide Corporation stand trial in India on the charge of culpable homicide as the perpetrator of the world's worst industrial disaster.

Union Carbide is a \$5 billion chemical company headquartered in Danbury, Connecticut but incorporated in New York State with worldwide operations. Both the Corporation and its Chairman at the time of the disaster have refused to appear in court to answer this charge and have been declared absconders from justice.

A full-page ad in the West Coast edition of the *New York Times* has urged Dennis C. Vacco, New York State Attorney General, to begin charter revocation proceedings against Union Carbide as long as it continues to flout the law. Most state corporation codes, including New York, provide for dissolving corporations that cause great harm.

Eleven years ago, thousands of men, women, and children were killed when a Union Carbide pesticide plant gassed the city of Bhopal in India. More than a decade later, tens of thousands more are still crippled and dying.

The groups issuing the call for justice in Bhopal range from major national organizations like Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth to grassroots groups like the Calhoun County Resource Watch on the Texas Gulf Coast where Union Carbide has a major production facility with a history of dangerous accidents. Collectively they reflect hundreds of thousands of Americans concerns about the Republican push to weaken laws intended to protect workers and communities.

Please write to William Joyce, CEO, Union Carbide Corporation, 39 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury CT 06817-0001; Dennis C. Vacco, Attorney General, NY State Department of Law, 120 Broadway, New York NY 10271. For more information, contact the Campaign for Justice in Bhopal, c/o Council on International and Public Affairs, 777 United Nations Plaza, Suite 3C, New York, NY 10017, (212) 972-9877, fax (212) 972-9878.

Subversive Economics: Back to the Land

BY TIM HAUGEN

Bruce, from Nebraska, has called to my attention the fact that it is possible, at least in some states, to acquire land in many ways that are not profitable to the earth-raping developers who would sub-divide the land down to its last green acre. In some places, you can go to the county tax assessor and pay back-taxes owed by land owners. If they fail to pay you back, with interest, within a certain established period of time, the county assessor will give you the deed to the land.

At first glance, this may seem like a cruel tactic, but consider the possibilities. Bruce tells me of a group in Minnesota that has acquired thousands of acres of corporate-owned forest in this way. In my neighborhood just this last spring, a golf course changed hands in this way.

But what if you find a small parcel of privately owned land, and its owner has struggled to care for it responsibly? Friends of mine who came across such a parcel approached the land owner, who proved to be very willing to cut a deal. In short, my friends were able to buy 40 acres for \$2,800.

I would like to suggest that people who seek to acquire lands in this way should follow this ethical standard. If the land owner (whether a corporation or a private individual) has abused the land or has an established history of abusing other lands, then the hostile takeover is warranted. Pay the back taxes and get the deed without feeling guilty. However, if the owner has cared for the land, deal with the person directly rather than with the tax assessor.

In either case certain precautions are in order. First, be aware that you will be responsible for any liens that are attached to the land. If the previous owner had debts and used the land as collateral, you can be held responsible for that debt. The only way to be certain of your standing is to have a title insurance

company conduct a title search. If problems with liens arise that they failed to inform you of, then they will be responsible, not you.

Second, be aware of zoning laws. If you take over that local golf course with the intention of converting it to a nature preserve, zoning laws may prevent you from doing that. The county tax assessor should be able to help you with questions regarding zoning and rezoning. It may be possible to change the statutes of your land to reduce the taxes on it.

It probably goes without saying that your average EFler has radically different ideas about the proper relationship between a human culture and its land base than does your typical apologist for the status quo. It is abhorrent to me that something so vital to the well-being of all life can be carved up into the private domains of privileged profiteers. But given the current political climate, change for the better seems unlikely in the foreseeable future. The corporatocracy has a firm grip on the political structures and on the public consciousness by way of its control of the media. They're not likely to give up their control voluntarily or to embrace earth-based values. The renewal of an earth-friendly culture must take place at the grassroots level by individuals, families and cooperative communities. The only way we'll be able to compete with ignorance, media-induced fear and the glorification of consumption is by showing people, one on one, the real-life possibilities of living a good life in accord with earth-friendly values.

This brings about a slight philosophical dilemma. On the one hand, the notion that the earth can be

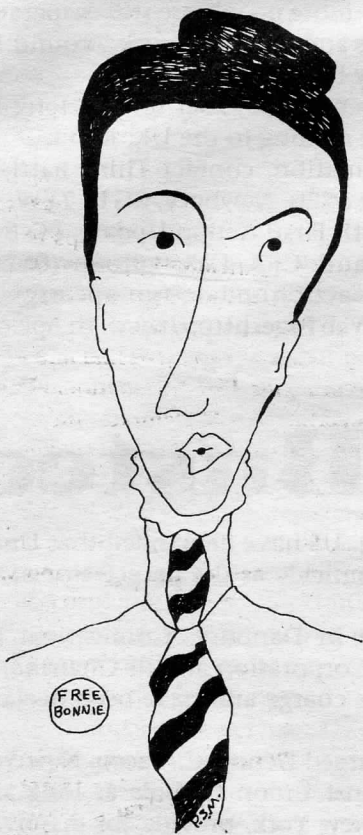


divided into the private domains of a privileged elite to be used and abused as they see fit is one that deserves to die if the viability of our planetary home is going to be preserved. On the other hand, building viable alternatives will be difficult if not impossible without some of us "owning" land. Stable models of earth-friendly living will not be able to survive without cooperating in superficial ways with the notion of "ownership." If the public doesn't see that alternative ways of life can be meaningful and desirable, then we may as well pass out the party hats and celebrate nature's last days, because that's where we're headed.

In the eyes of the state, I personally "own" land, 103 acres in the southern Colorado foothills. However, I choose to look at it a little differently. I have really purchased the responsibility to care for the land and the other lives that depend on it. I encourage others to do likewise. And if you can do so while at the same time evicting an eco-raper from the land, as Bruce suggests, then your actions will be doubly beneficial. So, head on down to the county courthouse, visit the assessor, and happy shopping!

Dear Miss Demeanor:

Advice for the Ecologically Confused



woo rant, what I noticed was something in the air. Her spirit was still there. It stayed around her body for hours. I used as much of her body as I could. I was able to save her meat. Bones for tools. I brain-tanned her hide into a very warm hat. I still sense her presence at times.

My question, Miss Demeanor, is this: Need I concern myself with the possibility of developing co-dependent relationships with the spirits of dead animals?

Desperately Waiting for Wisdom,
—MR. ROADKILL

Dear Mr. Roadkill,

Well, dearie, unless you find yourself requiring the coyote's approval for your new haircut to maintain your self-esteem, surely a deceased animal is better company than many a bothersome living human.

Gentle Readers:

Throughout the two years I have had the privilege of contributing to this esteemed publication, I have met readers who enthused, "You write letters that sound so real!" The truth, dear friends, is that I have never once made up a single letter—perish the thought! Each missive is a genuine submission from a brave but ecologically confused eco-activist.

Sadly, this misperception has become widespread. I just barely receive

enough letters to keep the column going. Therefore—alas!—I am considering retiring. If all of you endearing radicals were perfectly free of ecological confusion, I would be delighted to gracefully depart. But clearly that is not yet the case, and it would be just dreadful to discontinue helping those who are desperate and angst-ridden.

My dear, dear readers, I do so hope you will release your literary inhibitions and write to me. I can help you along on your courageous but confusing journey.

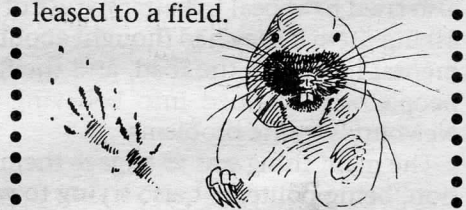
For Mother Earth,

—MISS Demeanor

Humorous questions may be addressed to Miss Demeanor, C/O The Earth First! Journal, PO Box 1415, Eugene, OR 97440.

WATCH OUT 'FER THEM GOPHERS

In Ceres, California, a gopher was found on school grounds by a student, who turned it over to three school janitors. The janitors attempted to kill the gopher by freezing it to death with the spray from several cans of a freezing solvent used to clean floors. After the attempted extermination, one of the janitors tried to light a cigarette, which ignited the solvent and blew the janitors out of the utility room. Nineteen people were injured by the explosion. The gopher survived, and was later released to a field.



Dear Miss Demeanor:

As part of my literal translation of "Back to the Pleistocene," I have recently been compelled to utilize the remains of my brothers and sisters from the Coyote, Deer and Raccoon nations who have lost their lives to the advent of fossil-fueled man-machines.

Last winter, I came upon a dead sister from the Coyote nation. Her life had been taken only minutes before I found her body. Please excuse my woo-

This is the Blank Wall

Tired of seeing computer-generated text stacked in neat little columns? Feel like your bioregion doesn't get enough editorial attention? Don't despair, sign up for the blank wall.

We will not edit the centerfold. Arrange it as you desire. You will be completely responsible for anything you print on your pages. Lay it out however you want.

Tell us when you want to fill the Blank Wall, and you will get your chance when your turn comes around. Call early; the waiting list is sometimes very long. Have at it.



Cascadia Rising!

Savaging the Northwest

Forests of pine and fir blanketed the hillsides, great cedars filled creekbeds, the rivers were crowded with salmon, sturgeon and trout, the wolf and the bear roamed free. Then came the saws. A century later, less than 5% of our native forests are left, native fish runs are collapsing, wolves have been wiped off of 95% of their range, and the bear are running for cover. Welcome to Cascadia! Now, the remaining old growth that we have fought so hard to protect in the past decade is threatened by "Logging Without Laws".

From the Blue and Wallawa Mountains of Northeast Oregon to the Olympic Peninsula, the Siskiyou to the North Cascades of Washington, the so-called "salvage rider" is wreaking havoc on the last of the Northwest's native forests. Signed into law by President Clinton on July 27, 1995, the rider mandates that public forests be cut "to the maximum extent feasible...not withstanding of any other provision of law". All criminal and civil laws and international treaties are suspended for the sake of limitless logging. The law singles out the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Forest Management Act (NFMA), Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act, Competition in Contracting Act, and the Endangered Species Act. The rider also eliminates the public participation process and any administrative or judicial challenge. This thoroughly undemocratic peice of legislation has thus been termed "Logging Without Laws".

The rider was added on to a "budget-cutting" Recissions Bill, but it will actually cost taxpayers money. The rider states that "timber sales...shall not be precluded because the cost of such activities are likely to exceed the revenues." The Forest Service is also authorized to hire private contractors (from the timber industry) to prepare and advertise sales. The General Accounting Office has estimated the "Logging Without Laws" Rider will cost the taxpayers over one billion dollars. Much of this cost comes from the subsidization of access roads for logging. Following large-scale wildfires in 1994, the Emergency Salvage Timber Program was justified by the timber industry and some members of Congress as an effort to expedite cutting of burned and diseased trees. But the language of the rider was so broad that any tree "susceptible to fire or insect attack" and any "associated trees" can be cut. The timber industry talked of a "forest health crisis" and the need to log forests to protect them from future "catastrophic fire and infestation", but forest scientists agree that "there is no scientifically sound

reason to engage in salvage logging and many reasons not to. Some have stated that to significantly reduce the odds of catastrophic fire one would have to pave the forest. Salvage logging is extremely detrimental to a forest recovering from fire. Also, the tree farms that follow the salvage clearcuts are much less resilient than native forests to fires, disease and pest infestation.

"It doesn't take a cognitive giant to see that if logging was really in the interest of the forest it would not be exempted from environmental laws." -Derrick Jensen, Forest Voice Primer '96

Another section of the rider mandates the cutting of the Section 318 Timber Sales. The 318 Sales were created in 1989, when Senator Mark Hatfield (R-OR) attached a rider to an appropriations bill mandating the cutting of ancient forest. Some of the sales were stopped by court injunction and later protected by Clinton's Forest Plan (Option 9). Now re-released by the "Salvage Rider", those 318 sales must be cut in the terms of their original contract; no stream buffers or any other environmental protection. Many of these sales had been given a "Jeopardy Determination" by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, meaning that logging and attendant road-building would probably cause the extinction of Spotted Owl or Marbled Murrelet (endangered species) in the watershed. Still, the timber industry wasn't satisfied. The day after Clinton signed the rider into law, the industry went to court, arguing for an even broader interpretation of the "Section 318" clause. Federal Judge Michael Hogan ruled on January 10, 1996, that the rider releases ALL timber sales offered since October 1989, that had been stopped for any reason!

All across Cascadia, we are seeing green native forests fall under the guise of "harvesting dead and dying timber". President Clinton and some members of congress are considering reforming the rider. Rep. Elizabeth Furse (D-OR) has introduced legislation to repeal the rider which has over 80 co-sponsors in the House, but no matching bill in the Senate. But "logging without laws" was going on decades before the Salvage Rider was introduced. Judge William Dwyer, in 1991, ruled the the U.S. Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service were guilty of "a deliberate and systematic refusal... to comply with the laws protecting wildlife". REFORM OR REPEAL OF THE RIDER IS NOT ENOUGH! "Logging Without Laws" in any form must be resisted! Industrial resource extraction on our public lands must end.

CASCADIANS UNITE

Cascadia Forest Defenders Launch Direct Action Campaigns Across the Northwest

People throughout the region have answered the call to defend Cascadia. It's time for the pockets of resistance fighting for truth, justice and wilderness to work together in the fight against corporate greed and government lawlessness. Cascadians have blocked Forest Service Road 2408 at Warner Creek in the Willamette National Forest for a record 5 months. Activists have mobilized community support for direct action in the Olympics. Hundreds were arrested in Southern Oregon

"It is not desirable to cultivate a respect for the law, so much as for the right... Law never made men a whit more just; and, by means of their respect for it, even the well disposed are daily made the agents of injustice."

- Henry David Thoreau

as ancient forests fell at Sugarloaf. Residents of the hard hit Umpqua Basin are gearing up for civil disobedience, previously unknown in Douglas County. People all over Cascadia are rising to defend their forest communities.

Cascadia Forest Defenders (CFD) is a grassroots coalition of people committed to stopping the relentless destruction of Cascadia's public forests through education, community organizing and non-violent civil disobedience. We are as diverse as our landscape. Some are lawyers and teachers, others are gardeners, timber workers, or students. Some of us have years of direct action experience, some have fought for the forest in other ways, others have only recently been filled with outraged awareness. CFD networks with other local and regional environmental groups to pool resources and coordinate the strongest possible defense of Cascadia. We use various strategies to make small numbers of people as effective as possible.

It's time to work together to fight national and multinational timber corporations like International Paper, Georgia-Pacific, Weyerhaeuser, Willamette Industries, Louisiana-Pacific, Boise-Cascade, and Roseburg Lumber. People are urgently needed from all over Cascadia with a unified message dedicated to stopping the madness occurring on our public lands. We believe sacrificing the integrity of our land and water, or the rights and well-being of our work force, to resource industry or any other - domestic, foreign, or transnational - is unacceptable. We also denounce products made from the misery of another place and people, and the companies who perpetuate this exploitation and destruction.

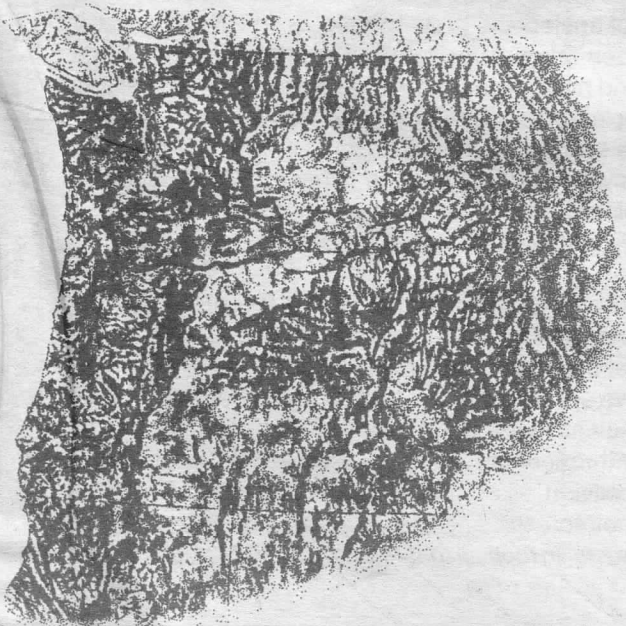
Until this land-ethic is reflected in the law and strongly enforced, it's up to the people of this region to act with the enlightenment our state and federal governments lack. Protecting our waters and forests by legal appeal has been made impossible. In the time it is taking to gain the repeal of the Salvage Rider the timber industry is moving swiftly, to fall as many of these sales as they can. These are places they never thought they'd get, the places that environmentalists had thought were saved. At Warner Creek and elsewhere, the defense of these places has rested on the acts of citizens of the region and their friends and family, who traditionally have always called on one another in crisis. Our land must be defended by the actions and support of folks from the local community, neighboring valleys, and throughout Cascadia. We are always looking for more Cascadians to take a stand. If you hear the call, if you, too, feel that you are Cascadian, join us.

BOUNDARIES OF THE HEART

The borders of Cascadia are grey as mid-winter dusk. It runs in the minds of some down to the rough, low mountains of the Klamath/Siskiyou drainages as far as Cape Mendocino to the Fraser River in the north, or maybe to the south-east coast of Alaska. To the east are the Columbia and Deschutes, Yakima and John

Day, any number of firm lines out to the western slopes of the North Rockies. To us there are no hard black borders; our hearts are best to say where is Cascadia and who is Cascadian. We are of the Pacific Northwest, the Doug fir and hemlock, ponderosa, black bear, chinook and spotted owl. The cedar, orca, raven, and wolf. The mule deer, white-tail, vole, marten and rhododendron. These are what sustain us and, for us and our descendants, what we must fight to sustain.

Molly Maguire



In the Road at Warner Creek! Cascadians Hold Out Salvage Saws for Five Months ... and Counting!

It was early September in '95, under a waxing moon in the central Cascades. Judge Michael Hogan would rule in three days that the "Salvage Rider" rendered all legal arguments for saving the forests of Warner Creek moot, and would lift the injunction against logging it. This would allow the purchaser, Thomas Creek Timber, to clearcut the first awarded units at the end of Forest Service Road 2408, around mile 13. The Forest Service placed a locked gate across the road at mile 8 back in July, to block environmentalists from guiding their public tours of the burned area (something they would not admit until months later). There was nothing left for the forests, so on that first weekend of September we taped red gel across our flashlights, pulled the taillight fuses in our cars, gathered our tools and supplies, and waited for moonrise. Small, quick shadows moved under the great dark forms of ancient cedar, doug, and hemlock. That night there was the moon, red lights, whispers, and the sound of metal striking stone and dirt. Cascadia rises.

Warner Creek is just west of the Waldo Lake Wilderness, in the High Cascades of the Willamette National Forest. It runs off the south slope of Bunchgrass Ridge on the edge of the Cornpatch Roadless Area, and gave its name to a 8,500-acre arson fire set in 1991, after the forest had been protected as a Habitat Conservation Area for its (relatively) thriving northern spot-

ted owl population. In 1993, Clinton's Option-9 Forest Plan gave the area their highest level of protective designation; Late-Successional Reserve; the catch is that salvage-logging is allowable in cases of "stand-replacing events" on any public lands outside designated Wilderness areas, regardless of protected status.

After the arson, the Forest Service proposed to "salvage" 40,000,000 board feet of timber (later to be reduced to 9 million after court appeals) from the slopes and drainages of Bunchgrass. Circumventing protection by arson, clearcut logging on fragile soils and steep slopes, threatened owls, chopping down the standing trees; this place had all the makings for a knock-down, drag-out battle for the forest. And the people of Cascadia responded, educating the public on the issues of the fire. The paper blockades held, the lawyers blocked the timber companies out for four years as the owls moved back in, the fires reseeded, and the forest did what it had for millennia before we came, breathing to a rhythm of gradual change, life bustling to fill new niches.

On September 6, Hogan lived down to our expectations. He lifted the injunction and Willamette National Forest Supervisor Darryl Kenops issued a closure order to block the public altogether from the sale area. But it was too late. The Cascadians had the road, and with half-ton lock down positions placed in the roadbed, were not going to be easily or



The Cascadia Free State Wall — protecting Warner Creek salvage timber sale from the US Forest Service and Thomas Creek Lumber.

quickly removed. Night after night the people swarmed over the only approach to the awarded sales, as elk and black bear cruised through and spotted owl challenged their movements. Rock walls and trenches girded the liberated road and later 55-gallon drums of concrete embraced and firmly reinforced the U.S.F.S. gate. Each morning we'd greet the sun, the Forest Service, the press, and the public. Cascadia Free State was open to all; check your chainsaws and badges at the border.

Its February now and for five months Warner Creek has stood against the saws, against the rulings of Judge Hogan, against the odds and against the law. The defenders came from all over Oregon, the Pacific Northwest, and the U.S. They were never of one group or mind before one law sent them into the forest as outlaws; Sierra Clubbers beside Earth First!ers, tree-toppers with urban anarchists, hundreds over the months came to see and stayed to dig and build. In the daylight they talk to

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Direct Action Could be Last Chance for the Umpqua... and the cut-throat trout and coho salmon....

First, Last, Cowboy, Abe's Wren, Yellow Creek, Honeytree; all rank among the worst of a host of controversial Umpqua Basin timber sales. Already thrashed, the Umpqua is one of the regions hardest hit by lawless logging, now institutionalized with the Salvagerider. Previously withdrawn due to the extremely detrimental impact that their loss would have on habitat and wildlife, over three dozen sales have been revived under "logging without laws." Some of these places are gone forever. Timber companies are actively clearcutting numerous others.

But some of the most priceless stands can still be saved. Doing so may give threatened runs of coho salmon and sea-run cutthroat trout, teetering perilously on the brink of extinction, a chance for survival. Doing nothing

only makes us accomplices in these horrendous crimes. If these places are to be saved, direct action will play a key role.

By late January 1996, many of the released sales had already been felled on National Forest and BLM lands. Cascadia Forest Defenders operatives who visited

the field in early January found clearcuts full of hundreds of freshly cut giants strewn on the ground. It appeared that the culpable timber companies are engaging in a dirty campaign of cutting as many fat green trees as possible now before any laws are reinstated - yard 'em out later. Judge Hogan has fed them a steady diet of up to 6 and 7 foot diameter trees hun-

dreds of years old. He released thousands of acres of healthy old-growth and mature second-growth forests in decision after decision during 1995. On January 10, 1996, he opened an additional five especially egregious 318 sales in the Tiller district to logging.

This cluster of five sales exemplifies the tragedy unfolding in the Umpqua and assures confrontation between environmentalists and the rapacious timber barons of Douglas County. A total of 921 acres are slated for clearcutting in the First, Last, Cowboy, Nita and South Nita sales. Together, the sales are projected to produce 36.8 mmbf. All are in key watersheds and LSRs as designated

continued on page back page

"The ethical behavior of ... agency employees would be to refuse to follow orders, (un)like the guards in the concentration camp. I hope the Forest Service employees do a little civil disobedience of their own. Anyone with a little morality in these agencies has to rebel."

— Reed Noss,
Conservation Biologist

More Carnage in Cascadia...The Destruction of a Healthy Old Growth Forest Fragment*

The destruction I and my compatriots observed at the Yellow Creek clearcut sale (Roseburg BLM district) in Douglas County did not prepare us for the atrocity we witnessed at the Honeytree clearcut sale in the Umpqua National Forest. Here, perched above a 40 foot cliff face, cascading water falls, and an immense recent clearcut at the headwaters of Hipower Creek stood a grove of 350-year-old plus solid healthy giants. Hipower Creek is a tributary to Steamboat Creek, which flows into the wild and scenic Umpqua River. The diameter of these trees ranged from four to seven feet! This stand of ever-giving benevolent ones, vitally important to Hipower Creek's water purity, the threatened sea-run cutthroat trout and coho salmon, would have grown and filtered snowmelt for hundreds of more years but ... they are no more. The ancient ones' bodies are stacked side by side like scenes of a mass execution. Hundreds of them. So many that over much of the clearcut you can not see the ground below.

This was a blow mentally, spiritually, and physically. None of the five of us, three of whom had grown up in Oregon, had ever seen such immense carnage of ancient old-growth Douglas firs. Now, virtually all of them have been taken away from us and future generations forever. Saddest and most disturbing, however, is that I can not say that other savage clearcuts happening now all over the Umpqua Basin are unlike the scenes I have just described; and I can not say that more atrocities will not happen to the Umpqua, or the Siuslaw, Alsea, Elk, Smith, Illinois, Rogue, or Chetco watersheds ... because it will happen again and again under this "lawless savage rider" unless we the people, from the youth to the elderly, stand against these atrocities and say "No more!! You, people of Congress and the bloody timber industry will heed our cries of outrage and feel the fire of our spirit! Repeal this lawless logging rider now!"

It is not time to give up! It is not too late! There are at least 10,000-20,000 acres of ancient forest fragments in one hundred clearcut sales still standing throughout Cascadia. We can not let them be chainsawed into oblivion without steadfast resistance. Viva our temperate ancient rainforests!

*forest fragments are, in fact, all that remains on BLM public lands.





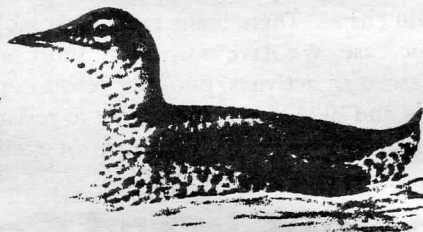
Cheetwoot Bear

The Olympics: They're at it again

Yes, come to the Olympics!

Start at the Camel timber sale and paw through deep layers of club moss and richly scented bits of trees alongside a thundering brook that rumbles down the hillside before pouring into the Dosewallips River, a prime salmon bearing stream dedicated Like most timber sales on the Olympic Peninsula, there is abundant Spotted Owl habitat and trees so tall they grab the mist with their branches as it flows down the valley.

Now let's go to the other side of the Peninsula to the Rocky timber sale, so named for the Rocky Brook that (get this!) runs right through the middle of this lush bit of forest. I say "bit" because it is truly an island in the midst of the sea of clearcuts and tree farms that comprise the ranger districts surrounding the Olympic National Park.



The Olympic National Park itself is a one million acre island of habitat centered around glaciated 7,900 foot Mount Olympus. From this high point on the Peninsula rivers radiate out to the Puget Sound and the Pacific Ocean. These watersheds form the structure of the Peninsula ecosystem. The Park supports unique bands of Roosevelt Elk in different drainages, all of which are threatened by declining numbers due to development and habitat destruction in the lower reaches. The lowlands are wintering grounds for the elk and extend far beyond the Park's boundaries. Eight species of plants are found nowhere else on the planet except for the Olympic Peninsula. Traditionally the Peninsula has supported tremendous runs of salmon

that are now threatened by lowland habitat destruction, or have already been annihilated by human encroachment. While the Park is surrounded by continuing destruction it still remains the foundation upon which the ecosystems of the Olympic Peninsula can be rebuilt.

As you drive for miles through clearcut after clearcut on your way to these sales, the existence of the Park becomes increasingly ironic. It is as if the presence of the Park was used as excuse to make even bigger clearcuts across more hilltops and through as many watersheds as possible. These rolling hills of clearcuts are the product of years of industrial forestry now compounded by the salvage rider.

Here at the headwaters of Rocky Brook Creek, we are seeing "Logging Without Laws" in action. The Rocky Timber sale will be clearcut leaving only two trees per acre for wildlife habitat. There are no provisions for the protection of Rocky Brook Creek, once classified as "a Tier 1 Key Watershed" dedicated "to conserve anadromous and resident fish" under Option 9, of Clinton's Forest Plan. Ron Hirchi, habitat biologist, said, "We oppose any additional cutting of old growth in this drainage to protect water quality and already severely fragmented habitat."

The Rider has a provision to substitute sales in sensitive areas for the same volume and type of timber (old-growth) elsewhere. However, this area is so heavily impacted, the District Ranger stated that replacement volume for this sale simply does not exist. Rocky and Camel are only two of nine "Section 318" sales released by the Rider on the Olympic National Forest. These sales represent the last unprotected old growth in the entire Peninsula.

Let the Park's beauty and surrounding devastation highlight the grandeur, giant old growth trees and rhododendron bushes the size of your living room, and the walking made perilous to novice hikers by the several feet of mulching tree fragments and saplings. Young trees... more than you can count, like a vast green shag carpet. A decadent Forest? Nowhere is life so evident and moving as on these Olympic Peninsula Sales.



Deal of Shame: Gifford Pinchot Under Seige

Remember a few years ago when the mainstream environmental corporations sold out on a number of sales in the Gifford Pinchot to "save" the 318 sales on the Olympic Peninsula? Well, while the Olympic 318 sales are up for grabs again and some already cut, many of the Deal of Shame sales still stand. Unfortunately these sales are still very much in danger.

Last summer we launched a campaign to try and save these and several other sales and bring attention to the nationwide destruction of our National Forests. Through monthly campouts and a concert in the forest, we had hundreds of people come out to the Gifford Pinchot. Monitoring continued through December on a weekly basis and we had the stream buffers on one of the sales re-marked. But it is not over yet! We still need people to monitor, so if you are going to be in the Gifford Pinchot please call Cascadia Forest Defenders at (360)352-6521, and we will supply you with maps and survey forms.



Residents of West Boundary with defender.

OK, we know we've made it sound like a veritable paradise and it is and will be if it stays standing, but we have a problem... the Forest Service appears to have made a slight error in their judgement in mistaking these forests for a commodity best manufactured into things like plywood and toilet paper. In fact can you believe that they have gone so far as to try and SELL them. Are we just going to sit down and let them go? HECK NO! Come and fight for the Olympic Forests while they still stand!

We are preparing for a spring Base Camp in the Olympics as well as ongoing direct-action. Please note, the Olympic Base Camp will be drug and alcohol free. Also look for a Cascadia Forest Defenders Gathering in May. Please contact CFD in Olympia, WA for more info.

No Home for the Murrelet

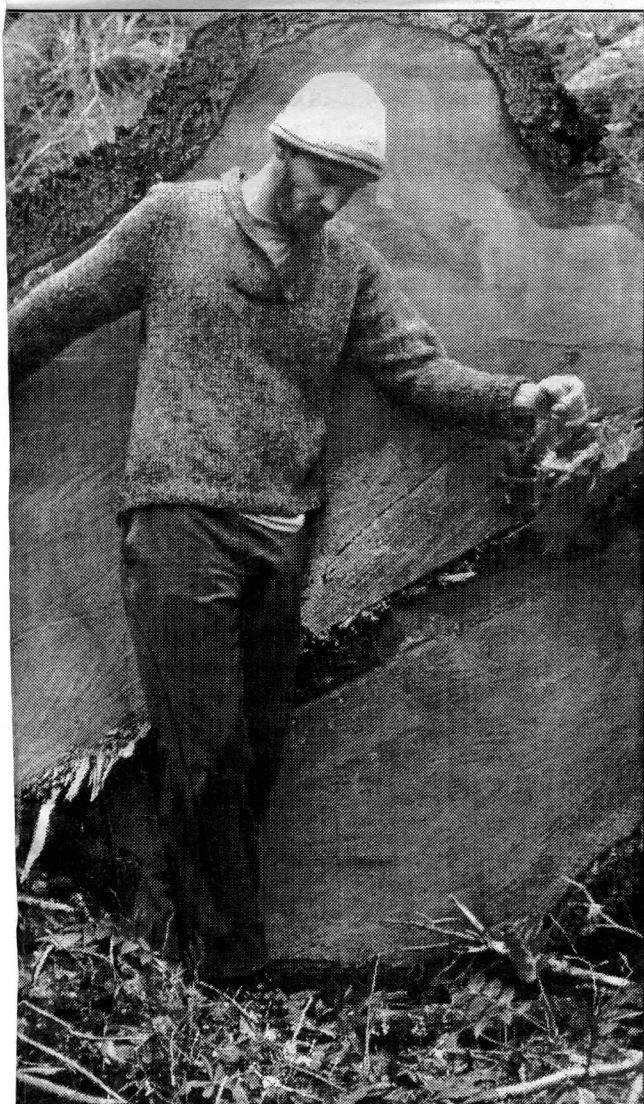
Imagine leaving your home one day to go to the store to buy food for your children. Imagine coming home and finding your entire neighborhood leveled to the ground.

Now visualize an actual scenario observed by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist in the West Boundary timber sale in the Olympic National Forest. Marbled Murrelets return from the sea to feed their young and find a clearcut where old growth recently stood. They circled, but the ancient trees, their nests and their young were gone.

There are still stands of old growth in West Boundary (a 318 sale) which are also home to Marbled Murrelets. Fish and Wildlife has repeatedly documented murrelet nesting activity in these units which will soon be clearcut.

In the 26 years since western science first documented the Marbled Murrelet's existence, we have continued the lethal destruction of its habitat. The bird is an indicator species for the entire old growth ecosystem. Because of highly specialized habitat requirements, the decline of murrelets points to the extreme fragmentation of Northwest temperate rainforests. There is no question as to why this bird is a locally endangered species. The question is whether or not we will let the murrelet become extinct.

Destruction of a ment*



Author with victim of Honeytree slaughter.

We Must Move Ourselves to Defend This Land

Cascadia is under siege as the "logging without laws" apocalypse escalates. As of mid-January 1996, over 190 of these sales had been awarded to the timber industry, and after January 19th's Hogan decision on the marbled murrelet, another 6300 acres of coastal old-growth is slated for destruction. Hell-bent on getting out the cut without legal restraint, timber corporations big and small are waging war on our National Forest and BLM lands. The only thing between the forest and the chainsaws are people, who are Cascadia forest defenders whether they call themselves so or not. At the thus far successful Warner Creek 5-month-old-and-counting road blockade, it is the base camp and support network that sustains an effective campaign.

The Warner Creek base camp demonstrates that the physical bodies of people in the road are the only thing preventing the clearcut destruction of ancient ecosystems in the Willamette National Forest. People and the blockade they maintain (believed to be the longest running blockade in U.S. history) defend Warner Creek. But what of the hundreds of other Wildland areas under the chainsaws? Over the years, the movement has organized base camps of resistance in time of need. Cove/Mallard, Idaho; Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia; Nevada Test Site, Nevada; Redwood Summer, Northern California; Coast Highway/Rainforest Defense, Southern Australia; and the No M-11 Link and Twyford Down road wars, United Kingdom, are a few prominent examples of campaigns in which base camps have played, and continue to play, vital roles.

Base camps have arisen in every shape and size. Some are as simple as a small shanty town of tents. Others are quasi-sophisticated villages with living and cooking shelters. What's important is that a base camp is located strategically and that it be secure because not only does the camp serve to defend the land, but it also guards the people within it from renegade attacks by Forest Service, BLM, police, and anti-environmental,

wise-use thugs. The surrounding area needs to be carefully surveyed and mapped. People must be familiar with the camp and area, ready to spring into action at any given moment. Watchdog posts on the outskirts of the camp, a physical barrier (like a log wall), or a security camp will help people in alerting the core of the camp when the need arises. This is where whistles and noisemakers come in handy if two-way radios are not attainable. Documentation of "visits" is also key and is best accomplished with a video camera, however a still camera and tape recorder can suffice and are better than nothing. In the case of an emergency, mountain bikes, motorcycles, and cars can be used to reach help, while a cellular phone instantly sends word of fast-breaking events to support networks and media. Essential are devices that will keep people and the camp from being easily dislocated, i.e. lock down positions, tripods, and barricades.

Organizing a base camp is challenging and requires a core group of committed, trustworthy friends, supply lines for food, equipment and other out-of-camp support. Once in place, however, a base camp affords activists a means to be not just a random, short-lived inconvenience to the Earth rapers and forest destroyers, but an enduring land occupation defending not just one timber sale, but potentially all the sales in the adjacent area. The base camp offers a creative space to strategically plan and launch actions from. In a real way, the camp

also enables activists to spiritually connect with the very land they are defending.

A few short months separate us from the spring. This is when the peak of the destruction will ensue. Then, many more "salvage" sales will become active and the cutting will increase. We have only a few short months to prepare. Can we come together as Cascadian activists, pool our resources, and set up base camps in every National Forest and BLM land tract in time to resist this wholesale liquidation of the region's last ancient forests? It is we who must occupy the land to keep Cascadia wild and free!



News from the Blues

The last homes of the Goshawk, Marten, Wolverine, Pileated-, Black backed-, and Three-toed Woodpeckers, Send's Big-eared Bat, Bull Trout, and Salmon are being mauled. The u.s. forest Dis-service is planning timber sales in some of the Blue Mountains' last intact roadless areas. In the Malheur N.F., plans are afoot to log the Aldrich, Todd, Reed Fire, Utley Creek, M&O, and Fox "timber sales," while in the Umatilla, the Buzzard timber sale is being planned. All of these sales are located in roadless areas which are providing essential habitat for numerous wildlife species. Some of these proposed sales - such as "Todd," located in a roadless "wildlife emphasis area" - include road building as well (5.8 miles of new road, 1.6 miles "reconstructed" road, and over 10 million board feet of "horizontal" forest). Cumulatively these forests of Eastern Oregon and Washington have been over-logged to an extent which not only violates federal laws, but threatens ecological integrity and wildlife viability as well. The populations of numerous species are in serious decline... Now with the industry dream bill pushed through congress, exempting the agency's "Salvage" hoax program from federal laws and citizen lawsuits, the agency has stepped up its assault on roadless old-growth areas throughout the forests. The legacy of this congressionally sanctioned destruction will haunt the forests, wildlife, and public well into the next century. YOUR help is needed NOW - Urgently! - to insist that this fraud be stopped.

For more information on timber sales and forests in the Blue Mountains, Umatilla and Malheur National Forests, contact the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Donations can be made to the League of Wilderness Defenders, HCR 82, Fossil, Oregon 97830.

CFD one-stop shopping

All prices include postage except lock-boxes

Cascadia Forest Defenders t-shirts (Sizes L and XL)	\$12
(with Roadpecker graphic for Local FS 2408)	
Northern CFD Cheetwood Bear t-shirts (Sizes L and XL)	\$12
Bumper stickers - "Save Warner Creek!" or Not One Black Stick!"	\$2.00
Cards/photo prints of Warner Creek campaign	\$2.50 each or 3 for \$6.00
Lock-boxes, customized orders	\$15-\$20 plus postage
"Last Chance for the Umpqua" and other video documentaries	\$12 per tape
tie-dyed hemp hackey sacks with Cascadia Forest Defender stamp	15.00

Make checks payable to:
Cascadia Forest Defenders
PO Box 11122, Eugene, OR 97440

Donations of cash, equipment and supplies are desperately needed to maintain and expand campaigns. Call or write for suggestions and current needs (hint: cellular telephones, wool socks and an ample supply of garlic are a few).

CFD supports an end to industrial logging and resource extraction on public land - Zero Cut-through an economic conversion to ecological restoration and alternative fiber technologies.

North Cascadians	South Cascadians	Blue/Wallawa Cascadians
POB 10024	POB 11122	HCR 82
Olympia, WA 98502	Eugene, OR 97440	Fossil, OR 97830
(360) 352-6521	(541) 465-8971	
	e.mail mickey@efn.org	

Five Months ... and Counting!

continued from center page

hunters and nuns, prep-school students and senatorial candidates; at nightfall they turn into another creature all together, something they call the Cascadian roadpecker. The Federales, as the law-enforcement arm of the U.S.F.S. are laughingly referred to, come to the blockade in small groups or large, sometimes with a road grader and State and local police backup. They take pictures and make threats against the activists with their arms locked into immovable concrete, but ultimately can only leave, with the road and the still-standing wildlands behind it remaining in the hands of the Cascadians.

What began as a small position on a narrow point of the road has metamorphosed over the turns of the moon; a tarp shanty-town for a while, now a small village of tepees with wood stoves, and a log wall with drawbridge, moat, catwalk, and tower; Cascadia Free State. The trenches deepened to gorges, walls grew in stature, all bred like rabbits, and what the protesters said at the start they will still proudly tell you now. "Not one black stick!"

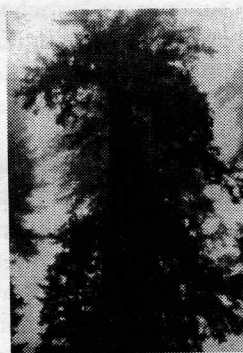
Direct Action

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under Clinton's forest plan. They are also in or near roadless ESOs (Ecologically Significant Old Growth). Umpqua Watersheds calls these sales the last stands for wildlife in the Tiller district, impacting spawning grounds for the coho salmon, cutthroat, and winter steelhead.

All five of these sales are held by Scott Timber, the timber purchasing arm of Roseburg Forest Products, arguably the greatest beneficiary of the Salvage Rider in Douglas County, and along with Boise Cascade, in the entire Northwest. Roseburg has a sordid history of environmental and labor abuses. Recently, activists monitoring the BLM Yellow Creek timber sale near Roseburg were assaulted by loggers. A day earlier, the loggers had their pay docked \$150 when interacting with forest monitors delayed their operations. The incident was distorted in the local media and shrugged off by the local police, giving the activists an early taste of what dealing with the industry-police-media complex of Douglas County promises when direct action and civil disobedience erupt in the Umpqua. The first civil disobedience occurred at a rally January 18 at the North Umpqua Ranger Station, where it is rumored employees are sympathetic towards efforts to save their beleaguered forest. Over 20 environmentalists protesting lawless logging were arrested for trespassing after approaching the front door of the ranger station.

For detailed, up-to-date information on the tragic saga unfolding in the Umpqua, visit the Umpqua Watersheds' web site at <http://www.teleport.com/nonprofit/umpquawater.html>. See form this page for information on how to order *Last Chance for the Umpqua*, a 5-minute video documentary containing graphic footage of the carnage at Honeytree and Yellow Creek.



Non-violence code for Cascadia Forest Defenders

- 1) Base Camps and Action Sites will be drug and firearm free.
- 2) We will respect all living beings.
- 3) We will act to diffuse violent situations
- 4) We will take personal responsibility for being in a clear state of mind.
- 5) We will not commit, encourage, or condone senseless acts of sabotage.

CONSERVATION BIOLOGY DONS THE GREEN UNIFORM

I don't like logging. From the Romans who logged the Mediterranean to the US Forest Service in the Tongass, commercial forestry has been an unprecedented disaster from which this planet will never recover. I've never seen a timber sale that I have liked. I've never seen one where there wasn't a better alternative, where higher values weren't being sacrificed, be it fisheries, watershed, biodiversity or the other host of goods and services that forests provide when they are left unlogged. I'm

probably not a deep ecologist, and I don't see a problem with logging done in a sensible way. With a horse and an ax, maybe, for a nearby home or schoolhouse. Or a few fence posts to keep the cows in the pasture, to make a decent boat to get up and down the river. These are traditional uses and they normally don't lead to deforestation the way commercial logging always does.

By definition, deforestation means converting a forest into something other than a forest. We know a tree plantation is not a forest. It does not function like a forest; it does not replenish itself. And neither do second growth forests that have been managed primarily for timber or pulp production. I've been all over the place and have not yet seen one managed site where higher values, both economic and intrinsic, weren't being lost due to an undue emphasis on timber.

This is why forestry is not a true science. It is a cult of priests who preach the unprovable dogma of sustained yield, and now they're at it again with forest health. It is the biological version of manifest destiny, and it is being used with the same results. Small wonder then that US Forest Service employees wear uniforms resembling those of the US Cavalry. Forestry is an alien religion being forced on the people through a vast array of institutions, from nature schools for kids to paramilitary law enforcement units like those used at the Sugarloaf Timber Sale last fall. Like the STASSI of formerly communist East Germany, its agents are everywhere, even in your own family. If they can't indoctrinate you they will bludgeon you. You must believe!

As you can imagine, my opinions on this subject have led me into some major confrontations with many so-called experts in the field. Usually these experts have forestry degrees, but occasionally they have biology degrees, or MBA's, or they wrote a book, or maybe inherited or made a fortune and like to go to conferences. Their buzzword is sustainable forestry, but what they're really talking about is commercial logging.

Sustainable forestry, of course, is a lie. Those who support sustainable forestry are not talking about forestry at all, but about logging. They want to sustain logging. Sustaining a given forest might require a ban on logging, but as Donald Trump would say, "Where's the money in that?" Foresters hate wilderness and logging bans because it precludes them from doing anything fun. Biologists support logging because the US Forest Service and the timber industry, through the major universities, are their major employers. Conservationists, for the most part, are divided on the issue or don't know what they want.

That is why Wilderness Society President John Roush couldn't understand the uproar when he sold logging rights to his land in the Bitterroot Mountains. And that is why environmentalists are having such a bitter and protracted battle over consenting about ending commercial logging on public lands.

Recently, three high-profile figures have checked in on this issue. You may have read their positions here when they were printed in an earlier issue. I'm talking about new Sierra Club Board Members David Brower and Dave Foreman, and former Audubon VP Brock Evans. Brower and Evans have recently come to their

senses and are supporting a proposed Sierra Club resolution against commercial logging on National Forests. Unfortunately, former Earth Firster Foreman is now on record

opposing the resolution. His rationale—a commercial logging ban would be bad for biodiversity. Translation—forest health.

Currently, a group of Sierra Club members are leading the charge to make reforms in the Club's policy. This group includes a growing number of well-known grassroots activists who want to be able to campaign for an end to commercial logging in all federal public forests. They have put a new resolution on the next member's ballot that would allow them to do so without prohibiting other local chapters from supporting less protective measures. Foreman opposes the resolution, and recently, Reed Noss of the Wildlands Project has come out and stated that a no-commercial-logging policy would be unscientific and bad for the Club.

In a heated exchange over the phone recently, Dr. Noss challenged Chad Hanson, who wrote the Club's ballot resolution, to come up with one peer-reviewed scientific paper that proves stopping all commercial logging on public lands would protect biodiversity. Hanson challenged Dr. Noss to come up with one peer-reviewed scientific paper to prove it would not. That was the end of the conversation.

This may well be a defining moment for conservation biologists. By supporting commercial logging on public lands, they are buying into, and now selling, the forest health scam. We need to manage it, we need the timber, we need the jobs, and it will be good for the forest. Sound familiar? Does it sound like science or that old manifest destiny repackaged as good medicine for the forest? Yes, the high priests are at it again, and they won't tolerate infidels. Foreman's heavy-handed and some

say anti-democratic tactics to quash this measure have enraged even a few of his friends. And the reformers within the Club are being branded as unscientific, unrealistic people who threaten the Club's progress in preserving wildlands.

But let's forget the personalities and look at the facts for a minute. The timber industry wants to log the National Forests for the same reason we want to protect them. It's where the trees are at. It is the largest reservoir of publicly owned forest we have and therefore the easiest to protect. Does it encompass all the threatened forest ecosystems in the US? NO! But I don't believe you can protect forests unless they are in the public domain and safe from commercial logging. That domain will have to be greatly expanded to include other threatened and devastated ecosystems before we can be assured that our nation's forests will get on the road to recovery. As history has shown us, loggers love loopholes in the law. If you give them rights to log, they will log as much as they can. Its in their blood.

Using public lands to form the initial building blocks of a system of biological reserves makes sense. Allowing areas slated for biological reserves to be degraded further through commercial logging is risky and irresponsible, and I haven't seen any scientific evidence to the contrary. The real issue is not what constitutes sustainable commercial logging in biological reserves, but what defines non-commercial logging. As I see it, that would be an incidental amount of timber cut to provide for traditional and customary uses in a way that does not sacrifice other forest values. This non-commercial logging could be used in limited cases as a tool to protect biodiversity, just as controlled burns or thinning might be used to manipulate habitat types. But the goal should be to cut as little as possible, for local uses, rather than trying to meet the timber demands of an unsustainable economy.

The movement to end commercial logging on public lands does not seek to end all logging. Rather it seeks to set the terms for a new debate on global deforestation. Forests are not commodities to be bought and sold. They are communities to which we belong. Although private-land logging will likely continue into the next century, ultimately we must

get some of these forests into the public domain if we are to have a chance at preserving what's left of these ecosystems. We can't let the current political reality against federal intervention divert us from our primary goal.

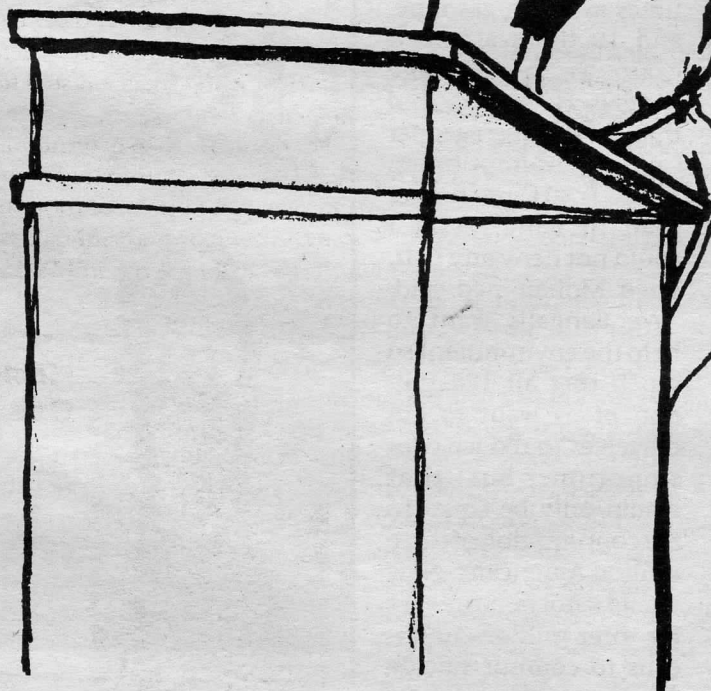
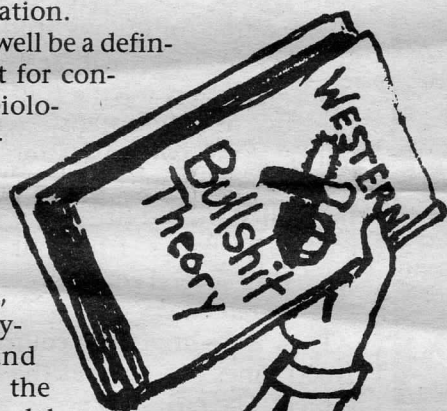
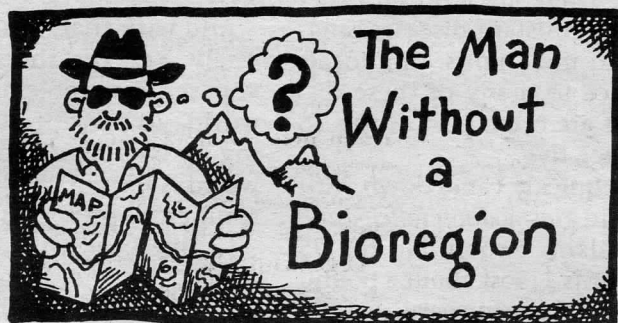
We have to change this reality.

Conservation biology is proving to be more politics than science. It seeks to go beyond just studying nature to advocating its preservation. Therefore it would seem that advocacy is one of conservation biology's most important responsibilities. Advocating for timber sales in the pursuit of forest health is a dangerous strategy, especially if there are conservationists on the ground who oppose them. Our message here should be clear and simple: Biological reserves and commercial logging are proven to be incompatible and detrimental to traditional and customary uses of the forest.

While wild forests do possess intrinsic values, it is ultimately our dependence on the many services that they provide, services that make our lives possible, that make preserving them so important. We can make houses and paper and boats out of many different materials, but we cannot replace the shelter that wild forests provide for biodiversity, or somehow duplicate their role in stabilizing our climate, or do without the water they provide that makes agriculture possible. Nor can we improve them with logging. Remember, no compromise means no compromise.

—MIKE ROSELLE

Brigid 1996 Earth First! Page 23

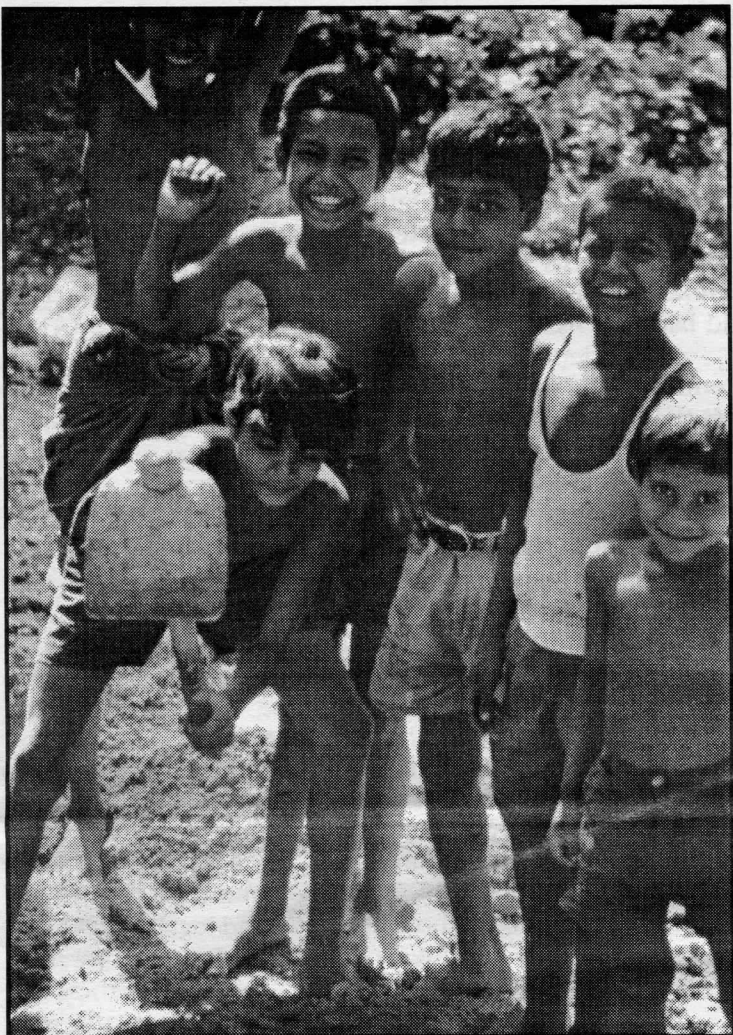


MORE IS LESS IN BANGLADESH

DOES OVERPOPULATION EQUAL OVERCONSUMPTION?

BY DWIGHT WORKER

Bangladesh is the world's most densely populated country, averaging over 800 people per square kilometer (3,000 per square mile). No other nation that is not a city-state approaches this human density. Bangladesh is the size of Wisconsin with 130 million people, growing at 2.2 percent annually. Per capita income is \$200 a year and declining. Rural female illiteracy is over 80 percent, and there is much local and religious resistance to women's empowerment.



These six Bengalis consume less than 1/100th of what one American consumes.

I went to Bangladesh for a few months last winter to get a firsthand look at human population pressure. As a population activist of sorts, I have been following the ongoing arguments about what is the greatest threat to the environment: human population increase or excessive per-capita human consumption increase.

Obviously, both are great threats. But what is more of a problem? What should we give priority to? Given that we all have limited time, should we spend our energy lobbying our government to fully fund international family planning, or should we concentrate in our own backyards on our waste and overconsumption?

Bangladesh is a rural country. Over 80 percent of its people live in small agricultural villages. For the most part, it is not industrialized and so it does not have the urban pollution, smog and toxic dump sites found all over India and the US. Except for the smoke of cooking fires in rural areas, Bangladesh is a clean green country.

Bangladesh is also free of auto pollution. It is a flat country virtually without cars. You can get anywhere on a bike. I stayed in Khulna, a city of 1.5 million people, and did not see a single car in two days. What a surprising and refreshing experience.

In rural areas, many goods are transported by bicycle. One of every seven people in Bangladesh earns their living as a bicyclist. By comparison, one-seventh of the US population earns its living via automobiles.

Just as predators follow their prey, diseases follow their hosts. With human densities so high in Bangladesh, there are many diseases to choose from. Most Westerners who travel to Bangladesh

get sick, some violently so. If you are lucky, you will get only dysentery. There are a dozen other common and increasingly resistant diseases ranging from dengue fever to meningitis. The locals have developed resistance to many of these diseases. Those who do not are often part of the 16 percent who die before age five.

I was cautious and still quickly came down with both amebic dysentery and *Plasmodium fallciparum* malaria. (This is the malaria responsible for 95 percent of all malarial deaths.) I lost about a pound a day for a month. In the end, I was too weak to walk.

I passed out on the dock while waiting for a boat. At this point, local Bengalis took care of me. They carried me and my gear to the boats and buses I would need for the next few days until they got me to a doctor. I was out of it much of the time. I was also carrying a \$3,000 camera system. And how much did these people take from me? Not a thing. They only took care of me.

Try passing out in a city in the US with an immense amount of wealth and see how much you have left five days later. Yet we call the Bangladesh people the poorest in the world. There is virtually no street crime in Bangladesh either (except when they are having ethnic violence). The Bengalis are wealthy when it comes to certain values that we often call human. Perhaps our problem in the US is that we only measure things with a dollar sign.

In Dhaka, the capitol of Bangladesh, there were continuous student demonstrations against the increase in the price of rice. These students told me that my presence as a "journalist" restrained the police. In one demonstration, I got caught between the police and students. When the police started firing tear gas and percussive grenades, I hid out in a nearby shop with several environmental students and we talked.

They were bright. Of course they knew 1,000 times more about the US than the typical US citizen knows about Bangladesh. I explained to them that the price of rice is also a function of supply and demand. And in Bangladesh where the population is increasing while rice production is static, the price increase should not be surprising.

One student named Mohammed nodded his head. He agreed that population is a real problem in Bangladesh, and it most certainly does affect the environment. But then he quickly pointed out to me that the average US citizen consumes 100 times as much paper, 110 times as much steel, 50 times as much gasoline, and 10 times as much grain as the average Bengali. He emphasized that on the average, per capita consumption in the US is 80 times higher than in Bangladesh. I could not deny any of it. Then Mohammed said, "We Bengalis want to help the environment so much that all 125 million of us want to kill ourselves to reduce consumption. But that would only be equal to the consumption of three million Americans. Now would it not be more easy for three million Americans to commit suicide

than for 125 million of us?" Mohammed smiled slyly.

And with that, Mohammed summed it up concisely. Yes, the sheer numbers of humanity is a very serious problem. But when you have the first world, 20 percent of the world's population, using up over 80 percent of the resources, the first world is responsible for most of the world's environmental problems.

I came back with the clear vision that yes, of course, we should continue massive support of family-planning, women's empowerment, and

"Now would it not be more easy for three million Americans to commit suicide than for 125 million of us?"

health programs that are designed and run locally. Family planning should be inseparable from general health care. Poor people need to feel confident that if they just have one or two children, their children will live to maturity.

I also concluded clearly that our high consumption levels are doing far more immediate damage to the biosphere than population increases in the third world. It is essential that we be sensitive to this fact when we speak with international peoples. Simply put, most of the world's critical environmental problems are being caused in our own backyards by people like us (if not us) and we can do much more for the biosphere by controlling our own rather than lecturing the third world on the evils of overpopulation (or wishing these evils on them). Yes, we have met the enemy, and s/he is us.

Yes, there is serious human overpopulation. Based on consumptive levels, the US and Japan are the two most overpopulated countries in the world, and are the source of much of the world's biological destruction. We have lots of work to do taking care of our own homegrown catastrophes first.

NOTE: For anyone interested in learning more about international environmental issues, I strongly recommend that you read *Lords of Poverty*, *Mortgaging the Earth*, and *The Debt Boomerang*.



Human-powered, cargo-carrying tricycle—no spew

An EF!er *and* a Devout Christian

BY ANTHONY G. PAYNE, M.A., N.M.D., Ph.D.

I was, up until 1993 or 1994, a financial supporter of the deep ecology organization Earth First! (I stopped due to difficulties in budgeting the support.) I have been and am in almost full agreement with the precepts and principles of deep ecology set forth in various EF! publications—as well as such classic works as Sessions and Devall's *Deep Ecology* and Christopher Manes' *Green Rage*. I would urge those who have rejected EF! and deep ecology as "too radical" to acquaint themselves with the material contained in these books.

Is it sacrilegious for a Christian to align him or herself with a movement which declares Earth first? Is not God first? Are EF!ers guilty of deifying nature? God, who looks at the heart, knows that my priorities begin with "God First!" then family, then all else. I'm sure this is true of many other EF!ers and "fellow travelers" (sympathizers). God also knows that I do not support or endorse the "pagan" aspects of or elements in the movement (any act or belief that tends to deify nature or detract from the worship due God). However, as is often the case in this world, one is compelled to join a group with whom one shares certain beliefs and principles—without embracing or endorsing every component of the group or movement's philosophy, agenda or what-have-you. (This is certainly the case in terms of my ten-year-long membership in the Democratic Socialists of America, i.e., I agree with their economic liberalism, but patently reject the DSA line on abortion rights.)

Contrary to what the Rush Limbaughs of the world proclaim, deep ecology is not founded on a "hug a tree" theology or the like. If the dittoheads would take the trouble to carefully study the movement's literature they'd discover that the foundations of deep ecology rest on a great deal of conservation science, ecology, field biology, evolutionary biology and the like. The environment-preserving rationale set forth by Sessions, Manes, Foreman and others is cogent, logical and compelling.

I suppose what "puts off" most folks about the EF! movement is its history of endorsing monkeywrenching (where laws cannot be enacted to compel preservation of a parcel of dear earth, sabotage is directed at the machinery utilized to cut trees, level land, et cetera). Is monkeywrenching immoral or anti-God? I think not. We have as a moral precedent no less an example than that of Jesus (Y'shua) the Messiah who confronted an egregious evil in his day, the presence and activities of moneychangers outside the Temple in Jerusalem, with a destructive act (he overturned their tables—no doubt wrecking quite a few in the process). Note that Jesus did not physically attack the evildoers, just their machinery (he did verbally castigate the moneychangers). This is essentially how EF!ers tackle destructive encroachments on nature where the law and all else fails. They wreck the machine, but never inflict harm to human or animal life.

Some might argue that Christians are compelled to obey the authorities. This is true when the officials and the laws they enforce are not in the wrong (immoral). I'm sure European Christians who witnessed the beating and deportation of Jewish neighbors comforted themselves with scriptures that refer to obedience to the powers that be. After all, the Nuremberg racial laws made racism and apartheid legal in Germany.

Obviously, in cases where the law or social policy run contrary to what scriptures decree or infer as being consonant with God's nature and will, we are not compelled to be obedient. Each individual must decide, of course, how he or she will register disapproval or non-compliance. For some, acts of non-violent civil disobedience are in order. Others provide monetary support to those of like mind who are in the field, et cetera.

In my own case, I have in the past (with intentions of doing so again in the future) channeled money into the coffers of those who are allegedly involved in monkeywrenching. (Not all of us are called to be warriors. Some of us must sit behind the lines and fund the army in the trenches.)

I think that Jews and Christians have a special obligation to ferret out God's attitude towards life, the environment, etc. (from biblical and extrabiblical sources) and consider this in light of the deep ecology philosophy. They might find, as I did, that the perspective and tools of EF! are not alien to God at all. In fact, they are very much in harmony with His revealed nature.



IN DEFENSE OF ECO-SPIRITUALITY

BY GENE THERAPY

Not many years ago, the principle driving force behind the movement for wilderness restoration was a passion clearly of a spiritual nature. At a certain point though, the movement began to join with elements of the scientific community in an effort to win credibility in this technoculture of ours. Perhaps inevitably, arguments for untrammeled wilderness shifted more toward the anthropocentric and utilitarian: "Save plants because of their medical potential," "diminished biodiversity will reduce the quality of human life," and the like. As this transpired, disparaging and delegitimizing charges of "woo-woo" were more frequently directed toward those maintaining a primarily spiritual motivation.

The wilderness movement has now lost much of its spiritual underpinnings and relies heavily on the data and blessings of certain branches of the scientific community. As a result, the arguments surrounding wilderness have become largely those

between "our" scientists (generally those who identify themselves as conservation biologists) and those on the other side, "resource scientists" backed by the industries and land management bureaus that furnish salaries and grants.

Science, no matter how you discuss or define it, is simply a tool. Like any tool it can be misused, and misused it is by resource scientists whose very existence is geared to serving industrial agendas. By asking only specific questions they are able to keep their data within the confines of the agenda at hand. When their data are being advanced by the same interests who fund political campaigns and lobbyist's offices, and whose interests overlap with those who own principle media networks, then the views of independent scientists are simply drowned out. A fine example is seen in the recently passed Timber Salvage Rider where the well-founded arguments of countless independent forest ecologists and academic biologists, who were against the rider, counted for absolutely nothing.

Some social critics maintain that science has been

elevated to the status of a religion in our culture in that it has been made something that is beyond question; if it can be claimed that one's view is "scientific," it effectively shuts down the opposition. But when science is under the control of the biggest religion of them all—Adam Smith's Invisible Hand—it becomes a menace. Science in the service of Global Market Demand is humanity gone absolutely mad.

It has been said that for economists "environment" means raw materials, for scientists it means data, and for environmentalists it means home. Home! It's home that you are fighting for—a home of which you are an integral part. And since resource science has long since revealed itself to be science-as-prostitute, you have every right to consider its information to be industry-oriented trash. At this late date, don't let yourself be reined in by anybody's warped data. And don't let anyone denigrate your spiritual inclinations. If anything will be saving this biosphere of ours, it will be coming straight from the soul.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES COALITION

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sickening frenzy of riders and could not afford to take the heat which would have come with openly gutting the US' strongest and most prominent environmental law. In four to six months, however, the vote will be in—the ESA will either have been trashed or strengthened. The Endangered Species Coalition will either have stood with integrity and a powerful voice, or shown itself to be one more anemic DC lobby.

This is not only our last chance; it's our best chance. A growing barrage of negative press and public pressure has reached the point where the Republicans are feeling the sting, and Clinton has finally realized that the environment is a vote winner even if he doesn't have a backbone. We need to undo the damage caused by Gilchrest being identified as the "moderate alternative" and establish a real environmental baseline for reauthorization. Heed well the words of Dante: "The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, in time of great moral crisis, maintain neutrality."

Babbitt Killed the ESA

While it is ludicrous to claim that the Gilchrest bill is "squarely in line with well accepted scientific tenets of conservation biology" (Defenders of Wildlife), neither Gilchrest nor his supporters set out to destroy the Endangered Species Act. They presumably thought they were only weakening the Act "a bit" which is the political reality after all. Isn't it? In addition to being self-defeating and politically naive, this logic fails to consider the crucial fact that the current Act is already too weak to prevent extinction. Any weakening is fatal.

Look closely at the trumpeted success stories of the Act and you'll see a different story. Bald eagle and the Peregrine falcon populations have risen because of a DDT ban, not the ESA. The primary cause of delisting, in fact, is the discovery of new populations, not the recovery of decimated species. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) refuses to issue jeopardy opinions and systematically refuses to implement every other aspect of the ESA including listings and recovery plans. In the Southwest, for example, not a single species has been listed, except under court order, since 1988. Kaye Bailey Hutchison didn't invent the listing moratorium, the Fish and Wildlife Service did.

When the FWS figured out that the courts and activists were going to enforce the ESA with or without them, it decided to replace the Act with its own regulations. Clumsily under Bush and with great skill under Clinton, the FWS has quietly erected its own corporation-friendly, shadow ESA. First it built guaranteed habitat loss into the Act with economically driven habitat conservation plans on private lands. Then it sought to protect compliant developers from the effects of additional listings. A recent proposal would exempt small land owners from the ESA altogether if they destroy five or less acres at a time.

With private lands under control, the FWS went after public lands. It has proposed new consultation regulations which would make programmatic consultation discretionary for the Forest Service and BLM and make a host of site specific projects exempt as well. The consultation process guides the conservation of endangered species on public lands. Public agencies such as the BLM and Forest Service are required to consult with (i.e. gain the approval of) the FWS on "actions" which may affect endangered species. The definition of "action" has been established through aggressive litigation to include not only individual projects, but large scale programs, such as Forest Plans. Landscape level programmatic consultations are favored by FWS biologists because

they encourage a comprehensive analysis of threats to a species. They are abhorred by FWS bureaucrats, who fear that "development" in entire ecosystems could be shut down during the consultation process.

Predictably, the FWS chose to shut down the biologists, rather than the developers. The proposed rule eliminating programmatic consultation, according to the FWS: "is intended to reduce or eliminate altogether the consultation requirements on numerous Federal actions under the ESA with respect to listed and proposed species." In those instances where a consultation is necessary, the proposal transfers the consultation determination authority from the FWS over to the action agencies (USFS, BLM)!

The Fish and Wildlife Service is smart enough to

bonytail chub, the Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec) was forced to begin a programmatic consultation on all its activities on the lower Colorado River. The cumulative effects would have included the Central Arizona Project and Las Vegas' plan to build a direct pipeline to the already over allocated river. Needless to say, the prospects of a jeopardy opinion were overwhelming.

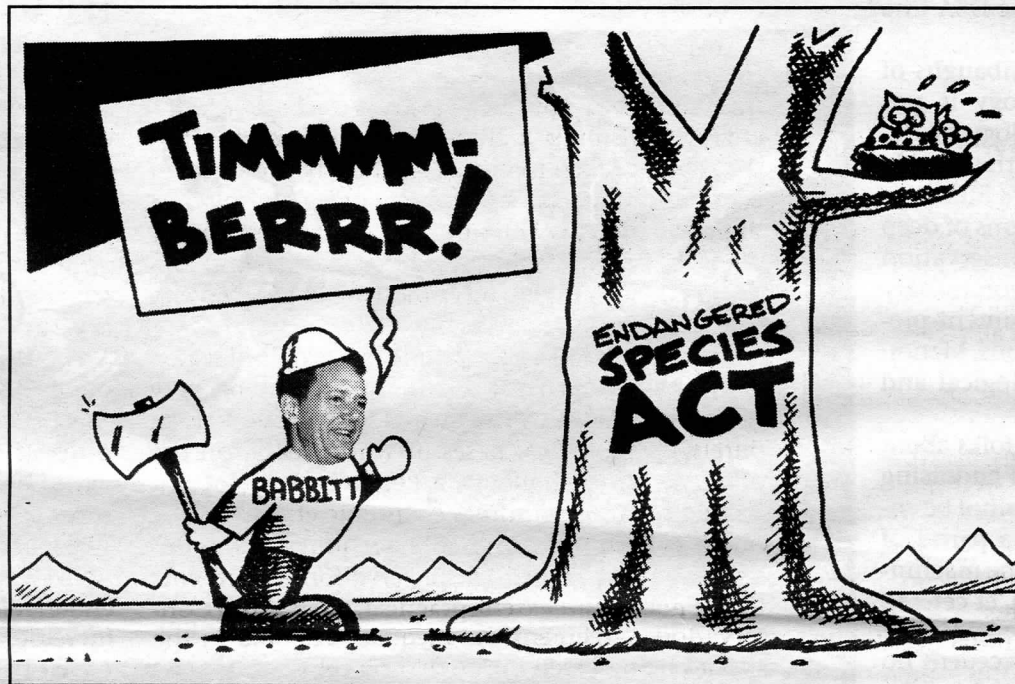
When BuRec suddenly withdrew the consultation plan, substituting a voluntary and unenforceable "biological document" for the legally required biological assessment, the hidden hand of Bruce Babbitt was evident. Under his political tutelage, the FWS has constructed a voluntary, shadow ESA which is being implemented in place of the real, enforceable ESA. Sure enough, the FWS soon announced that it had signed an MOA to turn man-

agement of the federally dominated river over to the states of Arizona, California, and Nevada, thereby escaping the consultation process. FWS proudly explained that as long as the states were making sufficient progress on creating a habitat conservation plan, all developments affecting the river, public or private, were automatically deemed to satisfy the requirements of the ESA! And who decides whether the states are making satisfactory progress? The states, of course.

If this abdication of federal authority to forces openly hostile to environmental protection (the states) looks a bit like the Gilchrest bill, consider the MOA between FWS and the state of Colorado signed in November, 1995. It makes some of the most outrageous portions of Gilchrest's bill the law in Colorado. The stated goal of the MOA is to use the "flexibility inherent in state and federal laws and regulations and emphasize voluntary participation of a broad spectrum of partners to achieve long-term conservation and development solutions... a vehicle to demonstrate that the [FWS'] flexibility in its implementation of the ESA can be used to find practical solutions that will reduce the need to list species, to consider social and economic issues, and to implement a habitat and community approach to conservation." Once again, the FWS is way ahead of Congress in gutting the ESA.

Here's how the shadow ESA will work in Colorado. Instead of ESA listings, there will be Conservation Agreements with "the highest emphasis on voluntary measures." The Agreements will "appropriately and flexibly balance economic vitality, respect for the property rights of landowners and water users, and maintenance of public values, including hunting and angling opportunities." If (surprise, surprise) the agreement fails to prevent endangerment, the species will be listed. At this point a voluntary Recovery Agreement will be developed instead of those pesky legally defined Recovery Plans required by the ESA. Even worse, the failed Conservation Agreement must be the basis for the Recovery Agreement!

The new age Recovery Agreements are so holistic, they will work for the "mutual benefit of conservation and development goals." They will also set out, in advance, the FWS's Conservation Recommendations, Reasonable and Prudent Measures, and Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives, thereby predetermining the outcome of ESA consultations. And who will develop the predetermined outcomes? The FWS, the state, and unspecified "partners and stakeholders"—the same development groups which will be



realize that the greatest threat to continued habitat destruction is the listing of new species as endangered. Each new listing reshuffles the deck, threatening the dubious house of cards they have erected. For this reason, they have taken special pains to destroy the listing process.

By regulatory fiat, without review or public comment, the FWS established a policy of denying citizen petitions to list Category One species as endangered, unless the petitions present new information previously unknown to the FWS. Now since a Category One species, by definition, is already known to deserve threatened or endangered status, the FWS has purposefully blocked protection for 400 species which have already been identified as needing ESA protection. The Category Two and Three species were even less lucky—they were completely eliminated. With a stroke of Mollie Beatty's pen, 4,000 species already determined to be potentially endangered were removed from consideration altogether.

When even these measures failed to stop determined activists (and their lawyers) from slipping petitions through the gauntlet, the FWS shut down the listing process altogether. While Kay Bailey Hutchison's rider on the military budget merely placed a moratorium on final listing decisions, the Fish and Wildlife Service unilaterally closed down the entire program—proposed listings, 90-day findings and all. The only listing activity currently allowed is downlisting actions.

Having taken regulatory emasculation about as far as it can, the FWS, in the last few months, has taken to signing insidious Memorandums of Agreement (MOA). These MOAs virtually exempt vast tracts of land from the Endangered Species Act, including the lower Colorado River and the entire state of Colorado.

Following successful lawsuits to list the Southwestern willow flycatcher as endangered and designate critical habitat for the razorback sucker and

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THE GILCHREST EXTINCTION BILL

Four things should be abundantly clear by now. 1) The Endangered Species Act isn't saving species. 2) This is not because of inherent flaws, but because the FWS is doing everything possible to circumvent it. 3) Any bill which maintains the current Act or weakens it will result in extinction and habitat loss. And 4) any discretion given to the FWS will be used to ensure continued habitat destruction and continued species decline. The Gilchrest Bill not only increases agency discretion, it shifts management authority to hostile state and local governments. The corollary is that the ESA reauthorization offered by Wayne Gilchrest (HR 2374) is an extinction bill. Not purposefully, a la the ESA bill introduced by Pombo/Young, but through timidity and political naivete.

The following is a summary of some of the most nefarious aspects of the Gilchrest bill. While every word of the bill is not death for endangered species, there is no question that the bad vastly outweighs the good. Note, especially, how the bill squeezes shut the litigation avenues which activists have most successfully used to protect species.

Listing

Getting species listed as endangered is the first step to save them and their habitats. Listing petitions therefore, have been a central focus of biodiversity activism. Gilchrest would substantially undercut the listing process. Most listing petitions will likely be subject to a hand picked, anonymous peer review team. Given the fact that virtually all recent listings have been won through litigation over the objections of the FWS, it is not likely that the agency's anonymous peer review will be very objective.

Finally, delisting petitions are prioritized over listing petitions. The FWS will certainly use this priority mandate to claim it does not have the resources to process listing petitions. A bevy of industry delisting petitions, therefore, could effectively shut down the listing process.

Currently, the ESA requires an initial decision by the FWS within 90-days of receiving a petition to determine if the listing "may be warranted." The 90-day finding is an escape valve allowing the FWS to dispose of junk petitions rather than waste their time on lengthy reviews. The Gilchrest bill lengthens the 90-day finding to 180 days and changes the criteria to the much higher standard of "is warranted." At a minimum, this will delay listings, even though the agency is already chronically late. More likely, the new standard will eliminate listings altogether.

Critical Habitat

Habitat loss affects about 85 percent of all species currently listed under the ESA. Even though critical habitat designation is mandatory at the time of listing under the current ESA, the FWS never does it *except* when sued. The Gilchrest bill will legalize the FWS' war against critical habitat, virtually ensuring it will never again be designated for any wide-ranging species. Under Gilchrest, critical habitat designation is delayed until the development of a Recovery Plan, and even then is only required when "appropriate." Institutionalizing this level of discretion will make litigation on behalf of critical habitat extremely difficult. One of the ESA's most powerful conservation and legal tools will have been gutted.

Even if critical habitat were designated, the Gilchrest bill removes the ESA language specifically permitting designation of currently unoccupied areas. Since most endangered species have very reduced ranges, this could result in critical habitat areas being very small. Being part of Recovery Plans, critical habitat will also be subject to the further burden of having to minimize economic impacts.

Recovery Planning

Recovery Plans are currently highly politicized and increasingly have become the subject of activist based litigation. Under the Gilchrest bill, politics will be institutionalized and legal challenges will be reduced. Recovery Plans will be developed by a Recovery Team jointly appointed by the FWS and each state affected by the plan. Affected local governments and private landowners must be included on the Team. None are required to have any scientific expertise. Non-scientists, in fact, will almost certainly outnumber scientists!

The FWS will be required to "minimize adverse social and economic consequences that may result from efforts to conserve" endangered species. Recovery plans must include descriptions of "actions that will be taken to minimize the adverse social or economic impacts" of implementing the plan. A litigation industry will surely arise to prove recovery plans have not "minimized" economic impacts. This requirement will essentially preclude recovery of endangered species.

Since reduction of economic impacts is elevated to a goal of recovery planning, it will be very difficult to challenge the adequacy of recovery plans purely on biological bases. It will be easy, on the other hand, to challenge a Recovery Plan for not having the most minimal economic effect.

Lastly, Recovery Plans will be required to be consistent with pre-existing Conservation Agreements to the maximum extent practical, even if the Conservation Agreement's inadequacy resulted in the species being listed in the first place!

Conservation Agreements

The FWS would be mandated to sign voluntary Conservation Agreements with state, local and tribal governments for non-listed species, giving them primary management authority. The Agreements are not subject to public involvement or appeal. In addition to specifying criteria for preventing endangerment, the Agreements must specify "actions that will be taken to minimize adverse social or economic impacts."

Federal agencies are required to ensure their actions are consistent with Conservation Agreements, to the "maximum extent, practicable," even if the Agreement is resulting in species loss. If the Forest Service, for example, decided to increase protection, it could be deemed inconsistent with a Conservation Agreement by state or local governments. The federal action agency must request a determination of consistency from the state or local government, not the FWS. If a determination is not given within 90 days, the project is automatically approved.

Bizarrely, the Gilchrest bill rewards state and local governments for failed Conservation Agreements. If a poor Agreement results in a species being listed

as endangered, the state or local government can request that the FWS "transfer management authority for that species over to the agreement party." The state or local government will then be responsible for granting and enforcing take permits and habitat conservation plans! Unlike the FWS, they do not appear to be subject to citizen suits.

Once the species is listed, the Agreement will be periodically reviewed. Continued decline, however, does not require that the Agreement be amended. If an annual review determines that the state or local government is violating the Agreement, it is given six months to come into compliance. This means an Agreement can be violated for up to 18 months before it is voided.

Private Lands

Recovery and protection efforts must avoid private lands as much as possible, even though 80 percent of all listed species use private lands. When conservation of private lands is necessary, a "cooperative" Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) must be developed which minimizes economic impact. Private land owners will be allowed to take listed species over and above the baseline population at the time an HCP is signed. Species on private lands will therefore be maintained at endangered levels. If an HCP fails, resulting in the continued decline of an endangered species, the FWS must pay the private land owner to implement any additional conservation measures.

The HCP approval process will generally be expedited. If the HCP is consistent with the "goals" of the Recovery Plan, moreover, the FWS must approve it. HCP's are also required to be consistent with voluntary Conservation Agreements, even if those agreements resulted in a species being listed as endangered. Since Recovery Plans will be extremely weak, HCP's are likely to proliferate and numbers of endangered species which are legally killed will increase.

Conclusion

There is absolutely nothing in the Gilchrest bill which will reign in the Fish and Wildlife Service's war against the Endangered Species Act. In fact many of the loopholes which activists have repeatedly litigated to close (such as weak recovery plans, failure to designate critical habitat, and inappropriate 90-day findings) will be enlarged. Our ability to continue litigating them will have been effectively crushed. Protection for endangered species on private land will be severely limited. Critical portions of the ESA will be delegated to state, local and tribal governments which have shown outright hostility toward endangered species. The requirement to minimize economic impact adds, for the first time, a non-biological constraint to full recovery of endangered species.

I have to agree with top ESA litigator Eric Glitzenstein: "The Gilchrest bill must be seen for what it is—a short-sighted, poorly drafted, one-sided bill which will inevitably and severely impede, rather than facilitate, efforts at the conservation and recovery of endangered and threatened species." It is fundamentally flawed, no "technical changes" will make it acceptable.

AN OPEN LETTER...

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subject to the consultation! This is like convening a panel of criminals to predetermine legal sentences.

Critical habitat is not mentioned at all. Recovery and protection efforts are mandated to avoid private lands as much as possible, relying almost solely on public lands. Outrageous? All of this is already included in Gilchrest's "moderate" ESA bill. Colorado is a legislative test run already being touted by Babbitt as a model for legislation.

Can the Endangered Species Coalition Save the ESA?

The failure of the Endangered Species Coalition (ESC) to move an ESA reauthorization bill under the

Democratic Congress was a constant source of frustration to grassroots environmentalists. The absence of many critical grassroots groups from the Coalition to this day underscores this frustration.

It's hard to say whether recent changes in the ESC are best described as a corporate restructuring or a corporate takeover. The bottom line, however, is that the ESC is now being run by Phil Clapp's Environmental Information Center and a small management team. The new ESC's first official mailing did not inspire confidence with its failure to criticize the Gilchrest or the Saxton bill. The latter, a shade to the right of Gilchrest, was presented in its own terms as "moderate" without comment.

Time for action is running out fast. The ESC is not yet committed to a bad bill. It should quickly give up its neutral stance on Gilchrest, regardless of the endorsement by some of its most prominent member

groups. The Gilchrest bill will result in extinction—that's the ultimate bottom line. The ESC should be the voice which carries a strong Endangered Species Act to Congress and the public.

Every reader of this article, especially the many grassroots members of the Endangered Species Coalition, should contact the ESC as soon as possible. Tell them to dump Gilchrest and support a strong ESA.

Contact Phil Clapp and the ESC at the Environmental Information Center, 1400 16th St., NW, Suite 330, Box 5, Washington, DC 20036-2266; phone (202) 797-6500, fax (202) 797-6501, email pclapp@acpa.com

Kieran Suckling is the Executive Director of the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity.

THE CHIP CARTEL & THE PIPELINE TO ASIA

Nowhere has the rush to cash in on the East's recovering forests been faster than in the Southeast where, within the last ten years, an unprecedented logging boom has swept across the region. Much of the activity centers around the Tennessee River Valley and associated watersheds, particularly the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway (Tenn-Tom) which was completed by the Corps in 1986.

Comprised of a series of reservoirs and linked by dredged canals, the Tenn-Tom waterway is the Corps \$2 billion engineering feat designed to provide a short-cut to the Gulf of Mexico. It allows barges to transport raw materials long distances, drastically cutting transportation costs. Without a doubt, the biggest beneficiary of this environmental boondoggle has been the timber industry. According to Eric Bates, *Doubletake*, "Last year the Tenn-Tom accommodated nearly eight million tons of commodities—more than half of it wood, and almost all in the form of chips."

The Tenn-Tom and the Port of Mobile now serve as the funnel to drain these previously inaccessible and uneconomical forests; it is no coincidence that hardwood exports have increased every year since 1987 when the Tenn-Tom started earning its reputation as the "Pipeline to Asia."

Exports from the Alabama State Docks in Mobile consist of linerboard and paper, lumber, plywood and veneer, post and poles and woodpulp. Over 1,258,390 tons of woodpulp were exported out of the port in 1994 making Mobile the number one woodpulp port in the nation.

In addition to the Alabama State Docks, private terminals owned by Scott Paper and Marubeni of America (a joint venture between Weyerhaeuser, Mannington Wood and the Japanese multinational Marubeni) are exporting woodchips and whole logs. In 1994, over three million tons of woodchips left private terminals bound for Japan.

Together, raw woodchips, woodpulp and whole logs constitute 80 percent of the Port of Mobile forest "products" exported. The South more closely resembles a Third World economy because their forest resources are barely processed at the source. The equation for profits for large pulp and paper manufacturers like Kimberly-Clark/Scott Paper is simple: Exports plus downsizing plus asset stripping equals instant capital, lower costs from fewer employees, less infrastructure and bureaucracy, and higher stock prices.

Due to the abundance of hardwood forests growing in the higher elevations of the Southern Appalachians and Cumberland Plateau, the multinational pulp and paper corporations, in cooperation with the Corps, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and

state agencies in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, identified the region as an ideal source of raw materials for both domestic and international pulp and paper markets. Combined, these powerful governmental and corporate interests are acting as a Chip Cartel—operating above local, state and federal laws. In a nutshell, "free trade" is nothing more than commerce without morality and is replacing the US Constitution and economic democracy.

The Chip Cartel is guilty of illegally exporting millions of tons of raw forest and tens of thousands of jobs. As a result of these massive exports local economies for hundreds of miles upstream of Mobile Bay are suffering adverse impacts. Local hardwood industries, considered to be "domestic dinosaurs" by invading pulp and chip interests, are doomed to extinction because of the Chip Cartel's trade policies and forest practices.

The Mobile District of the Corps has illegally issued permits to clusters of chip mill and whole log export facilities throughout the Tenn-Tom waterway and the Tennessee Valley without conducting even one public hearing. This is in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. Furthermore, the Corps has refused to consider the reasonably foreseeable cumulative economic and environmental impacts throughout the sourcing areas utilized by the Chip Cartel. The Corps has also failed to consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on the foreseeable and resultant habitat destruction and wildlife extinction that has resulted from their disregard for the law and the public trust.

For example, construction of the Tenn-Tom waterway destroyed thousands of acres of wetlands. Biologists estimate over 150 species of fish and mollusks have disappeared. Public subsidies for these institutions appeared in many forms ranging from reduced rates for electricity, tax exemptions, perpetual dredging and upkeep of the waterways. The Corps spends \$20 million a year to dredge the Tenn-Tom.

From an ecological standpoint, most of these hardwood forests are 80-100 years old having been cleared for agriculture, fuelwood or sawtimber around the turn of the century. They generally are dominated by oak but contain a good diversity of gum, beech, maple, sycamore and poplar. Despite the fact that they are second growth and do not contain the older age classes or all the former species, these forests have regenerated to the point of representing intact, native forest ecosystems.

High-capacity chip mills, which produce between 300,000-400,000 tons of chips per year, are capable of stripping 200 square miles of these forest within three years. To add insult to injury, chip mills require only

5-10 employees depending on the size of the operation. When compared to the numbers of workers employed in hardwood producing industries like furniture manufacturing, chip mills provide a fraction of the jobs.

Traditionally, hardwood forests were the source of timber for smaller-scale sawmills and local manufacturing operations. They were selectively cut and high-graded through logging practices that rarely removed the structural integrity of the forest. But within a matter of a decade, the drive for fast dollars has turned the industry into one of the most cutthroat in the country. The multinational pulp and paper giants have elbowed out the region's hardwood sawmills and manufacturing facilities by removing all standing timber—much of it good sawtimber.

Multinational woodpulp users like Kimberly-Clark (formerly Scott Paper), Boise Cascade and Champion International have changed the face of forestry in the Southeast, not just through their reliance on feller-bunchers and other high-tech machinery but through overseas trade and development. Some like Kimberly-Clark (KC) have become major exporters and have directly contributed to the high rate of deforestation occurring in the region. By cutting twice as much as its papermill can use, KC can sell the excess to a mill that does not have its own reserves of forested lands. Aside from depriving the local hardwood users, it also removes trees that could be used for domestic paper production thereby further undermining the region's economic base. KC exports \$50 million worth of woodchips annually from its Mobile facility which represents a small fraction of their value.

Please join in the call for an immediate, nationwide ban on the export of woodchips, woodpulp and raw logs for the sake of our forests and our economies. It is also time for the Corps and TVA to conduct a region-wide environmental and economic impact statement on the sourcing areas of chip mills and log export facilities along the Tenn-Tom waterway and other associated drainages. Contact your state and federal representatives and senators by phone or fax and urge them to draft an export ban bill, write letters to newspapers, call in to radio talk shows and, most importantly, get active on pulp and paper issues and campaigns. It is our job to get the word out throughout our communities so we can develop the political and physical will to halt corporations who infringe on our environmental and economic rights.

For more information contact: John Johnson, *Katuah Earth First!*, PO Box 281 Chattanooga, TN 37401; phone (423) 624-3939 or Rodney Webb, *Native Forest Network*, 65 Mill Creek Rd. Marshall, NC 28753; phone (704) 656-2517.

CHIPS HIT THE FAN...

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Meanwhile, Steve, sporting a Kryptonite lock around his neck continued to block the steep, narrow steps that led to the top of the superstructure. He would later pay a price for his troubles when the owner and his "Deadhead" son Norman would use him as a kicking and punching bag. Eventually, more workers made their way up and around Steve, but the situation was peaceful as we engaged the workers in "Conversation 101."

Out by the entrance to Chipco, the front company established by Scott Paper in 1991, a dozen activists carried banners and signs, handed out fact sheets and awaited the media. "No Stripping-No Chipping-No Shipping" and "No Forests-No Jobs-No Future" were among the messages greeting commuters, chip haulers and passers-by. The police had by now arrived and informed the demonstrators out at the gate that changes in the constitution had made peaceful gatherings and protests without a permit illegal in these

parts. Welcome to Alabama! Thanks to the presence of longtime civil rights activists Jerry and Jeffrey, the police backed off a little and our contingent did their best to comply with the officers lest we risk any other arrests.

The tone of the action changed dramatically when the owner, Mack McGuiness, got on the crane and ordered workers to cut the banner. When he instructed workers to do the same with the climbers' ropes, Jake intervened yelling "You'll be in jail too, mate, after I file attempted murder charges!"

Rodney had figured out that the show was over and rappelled into the chip pile but it took Corey awhile. At one point, McGuiness lost his cool again and he and others started to pull Corey up by his rope in a vain attempt to remove him. Once again, Jake stepped in and told McGuiness to back off and let him rappel on his own power. Unfortunately, no police ever got to the top of the crane and so there were no

officials to witness McGuiness' actions.

In the end, export operations were shut down for over two hours and the action itself lasted for over four, but the crane resumed loading after the banner was cut down by workers. It took another one-and-a-half hours to remove John and Steve from their respective perches.

It was during that time that McGuiness' son punched Steve in the stomach after he dropped his krypto key from the top of the stairs. A police officer did witness this and Steve is considering filing assault charges pending our legal situation. Once in police custody, the affinity group was treated with respect. The five arrestees ended up with four charges each, two counts of criminal trespassing and two counts of disorderly conduct, because both Chipco and Kimberly-Clark/Scott filed identical charges. The trial is scheduled for February 6.

As for media coverage, we knew that it would be tough to break the stranglehold of the industrial masters of the Mobile pulp and paper colony. Still, we were the second story on the NBC

affiliate who used our video footage and actually conveyed our message reasonably. The print media was less favorable, although we were highlighted on the front page beneath the Mobile Press Register banner with a small photo and caption referring to the article in the Business section. We were particularly angry that their photographer was late and didn't get shots of the banner, and they wouldn't use any of our photos. Obviously, we made some phone calls to the appropriate editors at the newspaper as well as to the local AP feeder who refused to help us at all.

This action, and our earlier demonstrations in October at the International Trade Center and US Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps), were the first protests ever in the state of Alabama focusing on forestry issues and trade exports. We hope our efforts served as a warning shot launched over the bow of the pulp and paper industry. No longer will their trade policies and forest practices go unscrutinized nor will they have the luxury of operating without public dissent.

SCOUTING TIMBER SHIP ACTIONS

BY TWILLY CANNON

IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE

Doing an action against a departing ship, such as a raw log export ship, is much easier than an action against an arriving one. You have the luxury of being able to watch the ship slowly load, study the habits of the workers and have a larger window of opportunity than for arriving vessels.

In short, export actions more resemble an action against a stationary target, such as a pulp mill. This article addresses the more difficult import action but within it you will find all you need to keep those logs and chips from getting exported.

Tropical timber products (TTPs) are imported in many forms: as raw logs, sawn lumber, veneers and finished products such as furniture, knick-knacks or chopsticks.

They are mostly transported by ship due to their weight and because the shipments are generally not time-sensitive. The shipments take two forms, as bulk cargo or in containers. Raw logs and sawn lumber can be bulk-shipped. All else is containerized to protect from damage.

CONTAINERIZED SHIPPING

An ever-increasing proportion of freight shipped today is containerized. Once the container is packed and sealed it can be carried by rail, truck, or ship—hence the name “intermodal shipping container” (ISCs). There are a number of advantages to ISCs. The containers can be filled at numerous, decentralized locations. They can be transported to collection points by any of the three “modes”. Once the containers arrive at the centralization points their uniformity allows ease of handling, loading, and unloading.

Containers range from 15 to 40 feet and can handle loads up to 30 tons. They are stackable up to nine or ten high, using small interlocks on each of the corners.

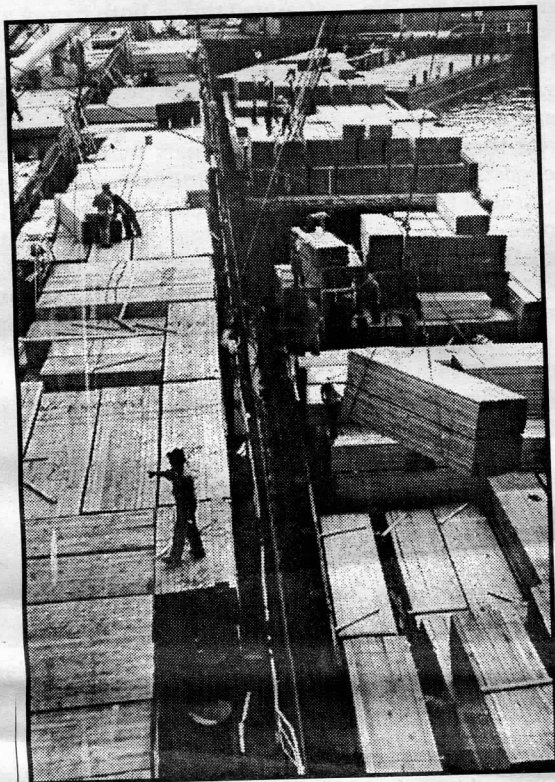
There are always markings on the outside of the container, but they usually don't identify the contents. They identify the owner, operating agent, and physical specifications of the container. Occasionally a small paper invoice will be tucked into the handle area but this is rare (most often seen on rail-carried containers.).

Some modern container facilities have begun using a laser-scanned color bar code system similar to what is found on grocery packaging. These bar codes are on the side of the container on a patch approximately 12 by 24 inches. If an activist wanted to apply pressure to the shipping company, one possible way would be to use colored electrical tape to alter these bar codes disrupting the automated tracking and inventory systems.

There is a wide variety of container handling equipment in use, but all work by one of two methods. Either the machine lifts the container from underneath, or it locks into the stacking/handling fixtures on the top corners and lifts from above. In general,

the lift from below equipment resembles a large forklift (and is generally smaller) while the lift from above equipment can resemble either a marine travel lift (a table with a wheel on each leg) or a crane. The crane lifts are of particular interest to action aficionados due to their vulnerability to direct action.

Containerized cargo also presents a couple challenges in an action context. A major problem is the “anonymity” of the cargo. Given that a ship will often be loaded with hundreds of virtually identical containers carrying a variety of products, it's nearly impossible to determine which, if any, have the targeted imports.



Credible deniability by the shipper could put egg on the campaigners face. Another concern of lesser importance is the charge that, yeah, the stuff may be aboard but you're affecting a lot of innocent people by the action. A creative response should be ready.

RESEARCH TOOLS

PIERS

Port Import Export Research Service (PIERS) is a very valuable tool in the search for timber imports. Working off of US Customs Service (USCS) manifests, PIERS develops an historical picture of the import/export trade. Port of entry or departure, commodity name, agent, shipper, vessel name and quantities are all included in these profiles.

When using this service, it's important to note that the information has several limitations. The information is never completely current. The company offering this service takes USCS raw computer data and works it using their own custom software to develop the profiles. In general, there is a four to six week lag in processing export information while import info lags one to two weeks.

Another limitation using PIERS is the expense. Subscribers are not charged by the “search” but for the number of “records” each search turns up. In order to limit the breadth of the inquiry the user develops “keywords” as search criteria. Typical keywords are the port name, product name or, if pertinent, the name of the shipper, vessel, or agent. The optimum way to do a search is to team up someone who has expert

knowledge of the timber trade with a PIERS operator who has a good knowledge of what keywords will effectively narrow the request. In one infamous incident, a marine mammal researcher (using a different system) asked for all articles in the past six months on dolphins. Unfortunately, the Miami Dolphins had just won the Super Bowl. This request cost hundreds of dollars. Take care developing your keywords.

USING PIERS DATA: PATTERNS AND CROSS-REFERENCING

The first thing to do with your PIERS search is to look for any apparent patterns. Is there one ship that seems to always be carrying TTPs? Is one agent or shipper handling the business? Do the ships always seem to be going to one port facility? Sometimes you get one ship on a regular schedule always carrying the target products.

Most often one needs to cross-reference the PIERS data with information from other sources. This cross referencing is where the real detective work of developing the action comes in. This work can be difficult and the results elusive. Proceeding methodically in the investigation is important. Keep detailed notes—a piece of information that seems insignificant may be the key later.

Here are some other sources of information that are often useful:

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE—The *Journal of Commerce* is a national business daily focusing on trade. It contains lots of information generally useful to activists. The portion of the *Journal of Commerce* that is particularly useful in terms of ship actions is in the rear section called the “shipcards”. The shipcards list the arrival and departure times of all regularly scheduled shipping—as well as listing the ports of call for the vessel. The shipcards are particularly useful in cross-referencing PIERS data. Unfortunately, the *Journal of Commerce* subscription is over \$200 per year. Most major public libraries carry it, however.

MARINE EXCHANGES—Most major ports have what's called a “Marine Exchange” (ME). These are quasi-governmental, non-profit organizations offering a range of services to ships, companies and individuals involved in the shipping business. Most MEs offer a range of office services as well as historical records and an “intelligence network”. An important service the MEs offer is daily mailouts or faxes giving vessel arrival and departure times. This information is generally up-to-date and accurate, more so than the shipcards. Typical membership rates are \$45/month for mailouts or \$75/month for fax service. If you wish to subscribe a good cover is to describe yourself as a cargo brokerage consultant.

SEADATA—SeaData is another subscription information service offering vessel profiles. A typical profile will physically describe the ship: draft, length, tonnage, speed, etc. The owner, lessor, agents, and operators are often provided. Cost is approximately \$200/search.

TACTICAL TOOLS

The various research tools described above are used to identify the port of entry and target vessel of the action. Further research is usually needed before effective scouting can begin. Here

is a list of other good sources of information useful in planning ship actions.

NOAA COAST PILOTS. NOAA Coast Pilots are books meant to be used in conjunction with nautical charts. They are published by the US Government and available wherever charts are sold.

Here are some of the useful things you can learn from the pilot: A list of the VHF-FM radio frequency allocations, location and description of ship anchorages, pilotage regulations, general and detailed descriptions of the weather, and detailed descriptions of the layout and operation of harbors.

HARBOR PILOTS, HARBOR TUGS, and VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE

These three services are most useful immediately before the action. An inbound ship must call for a harbor pilot—often giving up to 8 hours notice of arrival. The pilot goes aboard the ship at a place outside the harbor called the precautionary area. If one is listening with a VHF radio or scanner you will often hear the “pilot call.” Some activists have simply called the pilot service by phone and asked when the “pilot for vessel _____ was called for.” Details about the pilotage requirements and radio working frequencies are found in the Coast Pilot.

Once a ship enters the breakwater, tugs are often necessary (or required by statute) to get the vessel into its berth. Like the pilot call, radio conversations between the tug and ship will signal immediate arrival.

Most large harbors have what's called Vessel Traffic Service (VTS). These services monitor the movements of all shipping from the precautionary area in. For some harbors, reporting to VTS is voluntary, for others its mandatory. Large ships always report in. Again, by listening to your scanner, VTS will provide refined, short-term info about your target vessel's movement.

COMMUNICATIONS—Large ships use three principal methods of communication: HF or MF radio, SATCOM, and VHF-FM radio.

HF and MF radios are seldom used today and SATCOM (Satellite Communication) is what's replacing it. These systems look and operate like a regular telephone utilizing a geostationary satellite for a relay. SatCom costs about \$12/minute and intercepting these communications is usually beyond the ability of most activists. Some activists (having gotten the SatCom number of the target ship from SeaData or from the SatCom directory) have simply phoned up the radio operator and asked their ETA.

VHF-FM radio is the principal short-distance means of communication for ships. Range is determined by the height of the antenna above the water but 40 to 70 miles for large ships is not uncommon. All ships are required to constantly monitor channel 16 (the International hailing and distress frequency) and most also monitor a second, “working” frequency. In most harbors the ship will monitor 16, the VTS frequency, and the pilot frequency (usually channel 12 or 13). Again, consult the Coast Pilot for more details.

Look for future installments from the Ruckus Society.

YOU ARE NOW READING THE MOST

continued from page 3

To the Editor:

I for one would never in a million years "Boycott an Election!" I may freely decide that all candidates are assholes and choose not to vote, but I would never abdicate my right to vote due to a called-for boycott. An election is a much different beast than a corporation, of which I boycott many. To refuse to patronage a Mitsubishi or a McDonald's and inform others of such a boycott not only denies profits to a company, but also makes them fearful of the boycott's potential popularity. Therefore, the company will spend even more of its money denying the allegations, and trying to invoke the sympathy through green-washing ads and the discrediting of activist groups, etc. As most of you surely know, boycotting a store, a state, or a company can be a very effective vehicle for change.

Boycotting an election, on the other hand, makes very little sense to me. What the hell is the point! So a few thousand ratty enviros decide not to vote in 1996. We would all become yet another statistic in the ever decreasing number of Americans who actually vote. What has been achieved if only 51.7 percent of all Americans voted rather than 51.8 percent. No pressure would be placed on any politician because of the threat of economic ruin. What we need are millions of more voters who are educated on environmental issues. Imagine if 75 percent of the populace knew what the fuck was going on and voted, and kept tabs on their representatives, then I think you and I wouldn't have to work so hard. (Remember, most of the people who don't vote are the uneducated and disenfranchised, i.e. potential allies. This is why politicians, especially Republicans, are vehemently against voter registration drives.)

I realize that all politicians, no matter the party affiliation, are part of our toxic consumerist system and their primary collective goal is the promulgation of our "growth" economy. And yes, most get fat contributions from devious characters and Earth-plundering industries. But only a fool could not see that there are subtle differences between candidates. It may be subtle enough to mean the difference between a "yes" or a "no" vote on important issues such as drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or the subsidizing of mass transit instead of ranchers. President Clinton has sold us out many times, but at least on some issues we stand a chance. With a Republican triumvirate of President, and the control of House and Senate, we will be faced with a crisis on the scale of the timber Salvage Rider on a monthly basis. Additionally, don't forget that the elections in 1996 are not only for President, but for many other local positions as well. You cannot deny that there are a handful of national and state representatives who may not be EF!ers, but are not completely bought off,

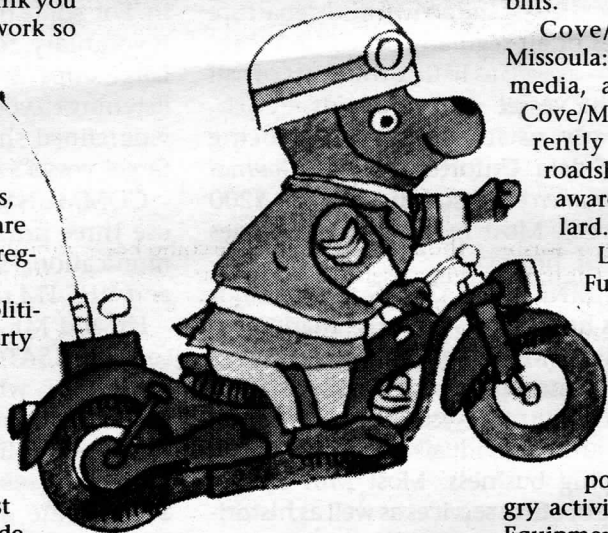
and are nominally serving their constituents.

I believe that all Earth First!ers should vote. We are part of a small minority who really knows what the shitstem is all about, so by boycotting this year's election, we would only empower the vast majority of clueless voters who think the "ADC program" is the newest sit-com on channel 5. If you honestly and sincerely believe the 1996 election is the choice between tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum, then by all means forego voting (or better yet support an alternative candidate). But advocating a blanket boycott of all 1996 elections is cynical, anti-intellectual and counterproductive. If we all jumped on this bandwagon, we could be denying crucial votes to a potential ally, albeit a weak one, in Washington or locally. I fret to think that there are people out there spending all of their energy encouraging people not to vote, rather than stopping a road, or shutting down a fur salon.

Thank you,

—PHILIP GOFF

PS Thank you, Casey Neill for your wonderful music. Whenever I am feeling bummed about the fate of the planet, I pop in one of your tapes. Upon its completion, I once again feel empowered to liberate the Earth from the death throngs of multinationals. I advise all activists to get a hold of either of Casey's tapes. If you don't have the dough, the first one to call the *Journal* gets a free copy, on me. [No joke. He sent us the money and everything.—LH]



Dear SFB,
Re: "Someday a Woman Will Be President"

Mr. Wal-highnass (of Walmart) ordered piles of T-shirts with this sentiment on it to be removed from all the shelves in all the stores. Apparently, he was a little offended. Call up your local Walmart and let them know what offends you.

—ANON

Dear SFB,

Steve Paulson's letter to the editors (Yule, 1995) fails to mention another group also responsible for the Jack Timber Sale lock down and, in fact, a driving force behind the Cove/Mallard Campaign: Earth First! While Steve is asking himself who the Cove/Mallard Last Wilderness Defense is, some folks out there might be wondering who the heck the Cove/Mallard Coalition is. Just a thought.

signed,
—YOU WOULDN'T KNOW ME ANYWAY

Dear SFB,
Re: What's With All These Groups And Funds for Cove/Mallard??

Some confusion has arisen over all the groups and funds that support the Cove/Mallard resistance. This should clarify things. This should help you decide which of the following four entities you want to support. And remember, money is very much needed!

Cove/Mallard Coalition-Moscow: Does outreach, media, logistics, and assists activists who want to help defend Cove/Mallard. The Moscow office is a crucial central point for organizing the Cove/Mallard resistance. We coordinate activists from all over the country who want to go to Cove/Mallard: we organize rides, and give information to activists regarding the gear they need to bring, what to expect, and what Cove/Mallard is all about. We do outreach to people who are interested in getting involved with Cove/Mallard.

Many activists are doing outreach, education, and fundraising in their own communities for Cove/Mallard. We assist their efforts by sending them what they need. We also have a forest watch program that includes documenting violations in the Cove/Mallard timber sales. This information is shared with the Idaho Sporting Congress to help with their lawsuit against these illegal sales. Funds sent to this office will help cover the expenses for logistics, outreach, camp supplies, media, rent, and phone bills.

Cove/Mallard Coalition-Missoula: Helps with fundraising, media, and outreach for the Cove/Mallard resistance. Currently is coordinating the roadshow back East to raise awareness about Cove/Mallard.

Last Wilderness Defense Fund: Strictly a fund to make sure backcountry activists get clothing, gear, food, and necessary equipment for actions and monitoring efforts. This is important. Cold and hungry activists can't do their job! Equipment for actions is crucial too; actions that slow down logging require things like U-locks and tree climbing gear. These are expensive. Further, they get stolen by the Freddie's each time there is an action. More bucks are needed to replace the equipment for the next action. The Fund also assists other campaigns, but its main focus is Cove/Mallard.

Wild Rockies EF!: Responsible for the phenomenal Wild Rockies Review. Will support backcountry efforts for Cove/Mallard, as well as assisting other direct action campaigns in the Wild Rockies bioregion. How To Contact the Above: Cove/Mallard Coalition-Moscow, POB 8969, Moscow, ID 83843, (208)882-9755; Cove/Mallard Coalition-Missoula, c/o NFN, POB 8251, Missoula, MT 59807, (406)549-3978, fax (208)883-0727, e-mail: gruh9434@uidaho.edu; Last Wilderness Defense Fund, POB 9286 Moscow, ID 83843; Wild

Rockies EF!, POB 9970, Missoula, MT 59807.

—NAT

Dear Shit For Brains,
Re: Yule, 1995 "The Shrimp Harvest of Shame"

As the article said, Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) are certainly cheap, but questions have been raised about their effectiveness in preventing endangered turtle strandings. Carol Ruckdleshel, a biologist on Cumberland Island off the Georgia Coast, has seen no significant decline in leatherback, Ridley, or loggerhead turtle strandings since TEDs have come into use in the Georgia and Florida shrimping waters. She has done extensive post-mortem research on stranded turtles both before and after the introduction of TEDs, and has suggested that turtles that go through shrimp nets with TEDs experience major trauma inside the nets when they are unable to find the opening immediately, as they often are. Apparently their blood becomes over oxygenated (or under?, I cannot remember which) and while they may survive long enough to make it out of the net itself, they often die hours or even days later.

Earth Island Institute has been singing the praises of Turtle Excluder Devices for years but the biological science community still has questions. Recently,



scientists and activists got together for a sea turtle conference where they attempted to answer some of these questions about TEDs. I do not know the results.

Before the EF! *Journal* promotes the easy technological solution any further, there needs to be more non-industry research into the long-term effectiveness of TEDs in protecting endangered turtle populations. If our country's most radical environmental journal comes out in such strong support of this questionable technical quick-fix, what can we expect from mainstream environmental groups? As we all know, it is all too easy to prescribe a device or drug that hides the symptoms of a lingering problem, but cannot deal with the problem itself. Maybe the only truly turtle-safe shrimp is one that is living out its life beneath the deep blue waves.

No compromise,

—YUMA BADGER

Letter to the Editor,

Immediate help is needed to help the Slovak and the global energy future. The government of Slovakia is planning to complete the construction of a Mochove nuclear power plant

built using the Russian model. Slovakia is the eastern part of former Czechoslovakia. This nuclear power plant is a Russian project and design and will not have a secondary containment, a basic safety requirement for nuclear power plants in the United States. The design for the plant does not satisfy the European Union's standards and would not get the approval to operate in the United States or the European Union.

There are many other problems with government's plan. Many important issues remain unaddressed, issues such as how and when to decommission the plant after its operational life and what to do with the high-level radioactive waste generated from its operation.

This nuclear power plant is too expensive, both financially and environmentally. In a country where the per capita GNP is only \$1,930 (US), there are better uses for this money such as education, economic development, or improvement of the energy system. There are viable environmental

tally friendlier power-generation technologies which would be substituted for this nuclear plant.

In addition there is one working nuclear power plant in Slovakia built during the communism consisting of four reactors. Two of them were shown as among the 10 most dangerous reactors in the world by the recent study of the US Department of Energy.

Please write the Prime Minister of Slovakia and ask him to pursue a non-nuclear and environmentally friendly energy policy for his country. After all, we all share the same planet.

—JURAJ KRIVOSIK

Mr. Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, Urad Vlady SR, Namestie Slobody 1, Bratislava 811 06, Slovak Republic, Europe; For Mother Earth, PO Box 93, Bratislava 81499, Slovak Republic, Europe.

Dear Editor:

For those of you looking for something to do on a dull day, I would like to suggest a simple and fun activity for the whole family. Stop by your local Shell station and pick up a bunch of Shell Credit Card application forms. Take them home, pass out

POPULAR SECTION OF THE EF! JOURNAL

large markers, and write condemning slogans inside regarding Shell's participation in the murder of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Nigerian activists. "Shell Kills" will work, but use your imagination. Seal the forms and drop in the mail—Shell will pay for the postage.

Shell is used here as an example. Any "Business Reply Mail" with an appropriate message for the particular slimeball corporation (e.g. Exxon, Time, etc.) would work just as well.

Sincerely,

—ESTHER WILLIAMS

SFB,

Re: James Barnes & Gary Milner

In the Samhain Journal, James Barnes responded to a letter from Gary Milner, a Forest Service employee. Milner, as I take it, tried to explain to Barnes that he would do well not to generalize and paint all Forest Circus employees with the same brush. Barnes replied with a pea brained rendition of "you are part of the solution, or you are part of the problem." Last time I checked, all of us homo saps were part of the problem. Barnes finished by suggesting that Milner quit his job in protest.

James, what the hell good would that do? What would it accomplish? I have successfully appealed a timber sale for which the Environmental Assessment (EA) arrived in my mailbox with handwritten notes proclaiming painfully obvious truths such as, literally, "They don't have a fuckin' clue!", referring to specific statements in the EA. Other notes explained "they don't know." & "they didn't really do that." I prefer to get my EA's with tips like this! As a fellow Cove-Mallard-ite, Barnes should be well aware of juicy documents given to us by persons working in the Red River Ranger Station, which bolster our arguments in court and elsewhere.

I don't disagree with most of the substance of what Barnes says, but I object to his black & white view of this issue. I also object to the "fuck you"-ish tone of his response, which is not likely to help build potential alliances.

—TREE FROG

Dear Shit Fer Brains,

I've exchanged a few letters with a certain Thierry Sallantin in French Guyana, South America. Thierry urges eco-activists and bioregionalists to join him in Amazonia and help build an eco-community, and asked me to write a notice for the EF! Journal explaining what he is working on. He writes:

"I have discovered your letter on May 27 when I arrive at this very little village, the only one in the middle of the rainforest: 80,000 km² with no human beings except perhaps two or three uncontacted Amerindian tribes (we are the only two anthropologists to know where they live!).

I was a journalist writer in French underground ecological journals since 1970. But now I think it's too late. The only thing to do before eco-collapse: escape and create little wonderful and peaceful human societies living as good as possible with our

brother animals and sister plants, and try to survive with our children during the self destruction of the industrial world. The only ones to survive will be those who learn as quick as possible, now, to live in nature and only with nature. We need ten or twenty years to learn all the Amerindian ways of life so that we won't need anything from the towns."

Thierry gave two addresses, so please write him if you are interested in going down there, and perhaps send some money in a different envelope to cover his postage costs. He suggests bringing a light kayak or canoe for the paddle to this village, as well as other "eco-activists and bioregionalists: one canoe=two people."

Thierry SALLANTIN, 973 Maripa Soula, Guyanne Française, South America; Thierry SALLANTIN, c/c Famille LAURENCON, 973 Saul, Guyanne Française, South America.

—AL DECKER

Dear Comrades

I live near Lake Superior in the upper Midwest and have recently discovered a most foul plot by a mining company that is unfolding quickly and without notice by most all national groups. I am writing to fill you in on the devious details being planned, but first a little background info is needed to catch you up on the project.

Sometime around forty years ago, a mine was opened in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in a town named White Pine. The mine was named "The White Pine Mine," duh! The mine was a copper, gold and silver mine, however the principal element being sought after was the copper. Native Americans from around the country and as far away as Mexico had sought copper for thousands of years here and Inca coins have been found in the area near old mine sites. The last forty years of mining however have been far more extensive that the natives had ever dreamed of. The mine now is roughly thirteen miles square and extends down about 2,700 feet below sea level or 2,400 feet below the Lake Superior mean level. The White Pine mine has been the second largest copper producing mine in the United States during its history and has basically run out of copper that is able to be mined by conventional means.

The company that runs the mine is Copper Range Company or CRC. CRC is supposedly owned by a Canadian company who, in turn, is owned by another, as yet un-named, company. Two years ago the CRC was hit with the biggest EPA fine ever given out totaling almost 40 million dollars for its contributions of mercury to the environment spanning 500 square miles. CRC now plans to use another method of mining called "In Ground Solution Mining." The plan is to fill the mine with over 15 billion gallons of Lixiviant, commonly called sulfuric acid. After the acid solution has sat a while the company will suck it out and process

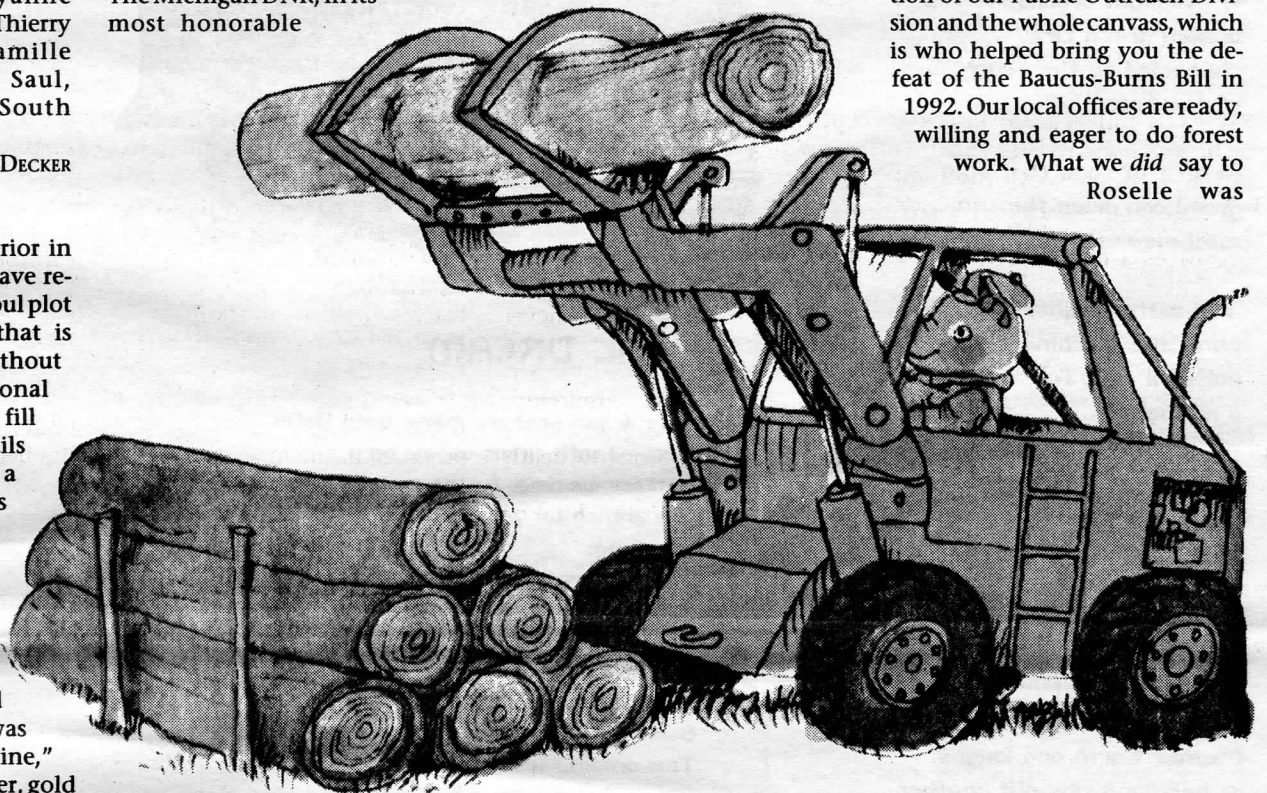
out the remaining copper and other metals. The fluids will be re-enhanced and sent back down to do more work dissolving the metals into solution.

The problem, if you haven't figured it out yet, is that the mine is five miles from Lake Superior and is filling up with water. No matter what the company does at this point the mine will fill with water and will flow into Lake Superior. The mine waters, however, are ten to twenty times saltier than the oceans are, remember Lake Superior is a fresh water lake. The mine waters are also laced with a toxic tea of heavy metals including cadmium, arsenic, lead, strontium, mercury, uranium, radium 226 and other isotopes, barium, cobalt, vanadium, zinc and others. The Michigan DNR, in its most honorable

through all four volumes of the company's report and have found every page to be filled with utter ignorance of the complex interrelationships of nature. The whole plan is insane. But don't take my word for it, call and ask yourself. If you don't want to call the MDNR, then call Mr. Jochen Tilk at (906) 885-7332 or write him at Copper Range Company, PO Box 100, Wilcox Rd., White Pine, MI 49971.

For those interested in more direct approaches, just show up at the public comment meeting when the draft permit comes out. Wear your best green shirts and bring your tools.

—ANONYMOUS



ignorance, wants the CRC to go through with this solutions-mining process so that the company will put up three million dollars to eventually build a plant capable of processing this waste before it enters the lake. The problem with this picture is that the plant will have to operate perpetually, meaning forever.

The MDNR has yet, since its inception, to come up with a decent ten-year forest plan and no one believes that they can do a five hundred year plan adequately. Now I know you're all thinking this guy is crazy, who in their right mind would dump 15 billion gallons of sulfuric acid in the ground five miles from Lake Superior. Well actually the plan was thought up by the MDNR. The state is not requiring an EIS nor even an EA. They are going only on a report prepared by the company. The MDNR is about to release its permit to the company and thirty days after that the CRC can begin its operation. As of today, January 2, the permit is not out however it is "coming out any day" according to Steve Casey of the MDNR in the Surface Water Quality Division, 1990 US 41 South, Marquette, MI 49855; phone (906) 228-6561.

Please, please, please—Everyone in the nation, call and write these people and tell them of your anger and utter disgust at these mad plans to go through with this. I have personally gone

Dear Earth First!

Mike Roselle took alot of rather gratuitous swipes at Greenpeace in your Yuletide issue. While some of what he writes may be valid, I thought that before we could begin a useful discussion or debate, I needed to correct some of the grosser distortions.

First, I agree with Roselle's point about moving people out of DC. Greenpeace does not believe political or environmental change will happen from inside the Beltway. Thus we have been consistently moving our program staff out of DC and into other regions of the country and created a Public Outreach Division to encourage the canvass to move into more program and campaign work.

In fact there are 80 people left in the DC headquarters, not 210 as Roselle claims. The total number of Greenpeace employees in the US is currently around 450, not 1200. (I'm not sure what list Roselle might have, but it's clearly outdated.) Only one fifth of our campaign staff is still in DC. and we are about to hire campaigner/organizers in each of our local offices—to help build our connections with grassroots groups. This despite all the cuts we have had to make in the past four years.

We consider our local offices and our canvass to be an integral part of our "program work", which means our expenditure for campaigns in 1994 was twice what

Roselle claimed. In addition, we contributed \$5 million to International campaigns. Our administrative overhead was \$1.6 million. (Anyone who wants can get a copy of our 1994 Annual Report based on audited financial statements.)

It is because of our local offices that we can support a forest campaign without a specialized campaigner, just as we ran a campaign against French nuclear testing without a designated nuclear disarmament campaigner. Getting away from specialization is a surprisingly positive side effect of having to cut our budget.

When we talked with Mike Roselle about our forest work a couple of months ago, we offered a lot more than "signing on letters." We offered the full cooperation of our Public Outreach Division and the whole canvass, which is who helped bring you the defeat of the Baucus-Burns Bill in 1992. Our local offices are ready, willing and eager to do forest work. What we *did* say to Roselle was

that we look to Earth First!, the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, and others to lead on this issue. I never thought I would hear Mike Roselle complain about a national group looking to local grassroots organizations for leadership.

While I admire Roselle's commitment to forest work, I can't accept his dismissal of Greenpeace's campaign to preserve the fisheries as "fuzzy". The forest movement made mistakes early on in alienating itself from the loggers and allowing the logging corporations to pretend to a common cause with the people and communities who made a living logging. We have avoided that mistake in our fisheries work, organizing with fishing families and communities to defeat the large factory trawling corporations. Backed up by traditional Greenpeace direct action, this strategy has worked!

In sum, I might agree with some of Mike Roselle's sentiments, but not his facts. I think it is time we moved beyond back biting. Get a sense of humor, and get a sense of proportion. If we worked together rather than sniping at each other, we might actually turn some things around out there in the world.

—BARBARA DUDLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GREENPEACE USA

[Mike Roselle will respond in next month's Man Without a Bioregion.—LH]

Armed With Visions

Clear as cut glass
&
Just as dangerous

ENDGAME

The warrior left his
life behind, tonight he
would run no more

The machine was heard
before it was seen, the
darkness enveloped all

Her heart singing with
mind clear the warrior
attacked

A headlight breaks, valves
broken green fire
channeled to the heart
of the beast

In a fit of rage that only
greed can drive the
machine responds

The battle is short but
pure, the machine
halted if only for
a moment

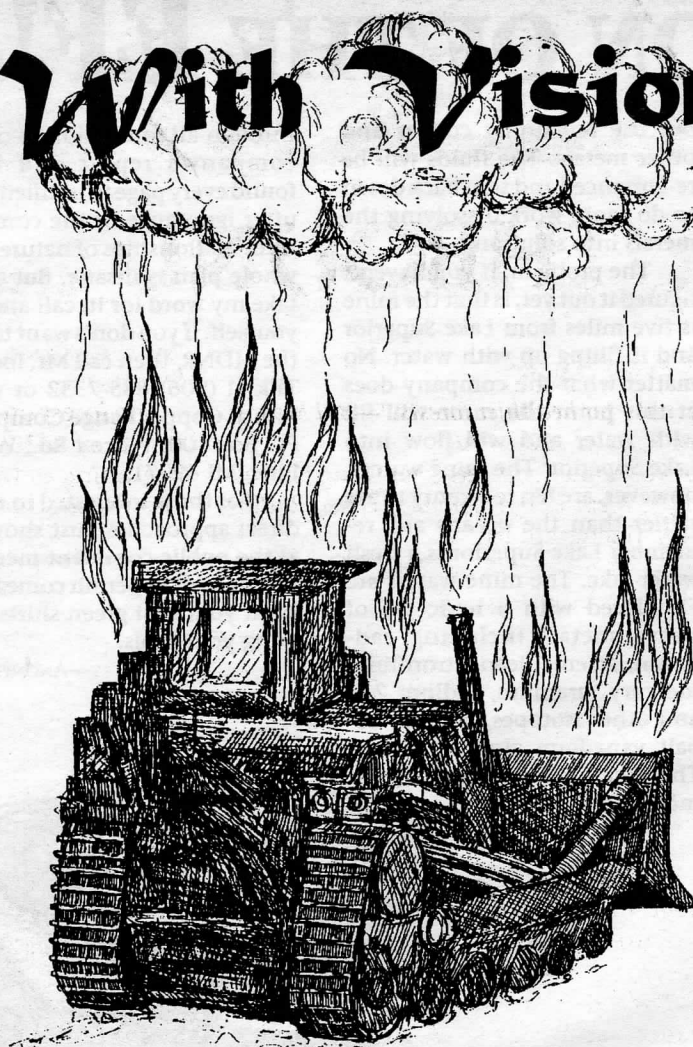
As the machine sinks
its talons into
the shoulders of the
warrior it seethes with
anger, fear

The warrior watches as
his life blood falls to
Mother Earth and laughs
as her hand rips out another
handful of wiring

Before the green fire
returns to the Earth the
warrior spits in the
unblinking mechanical
eye of the machine
knowing that the battle
has been won.

And out of the darkness
another warrior emerges, for the
battle has been won but
the war is just beginning

Shadowwolf



REAL DREAM

This dream kept me awake until Dawn.
I walked with circus angels on a
Perfect evening, for no moon shone.
My wrench banging, tearing, calculating,
Grooving.
The colours bright in shadows, the yellow
Beast's blood flowed black,
My face smiling when withdrawing from
The attack.
My knuckles battered and bruised, my soul
Soaring full and true.
This dream kept me awake until dawn.
After washing, laughing, mending I shall sleep.
And in my new dreams I will hear the
Monster operators howl at the dawn.
When the diesels seize and the monsters wheeze
And I know their day is done.

Sukie S. Lawrence

Offerings 3

An offering of flesh
to the Earth
Food
Eaten by Eagle
or Buzzard
Shit out
to become soil
to feed plants
To be eaten by
deer and rabbits
and again to
feed plants
And eaten by
Puma
and shit out
And dying and
feeding the worms
who feed the
Blue Jays and Lizards
who die and feed
more worms
or eaten by
Coyote
and shit out
to become
Soil
Chris Wilhite

Chainsaw Massacre

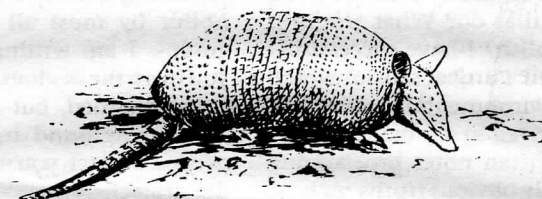
South of Coos Bay and naked cold
I slipped into the foggy evening ocean
a great pool of blue-grey sadness.

On the back of her tongue, she
was rolling the bodies of ancient trees cut,
and floated down rivers; They made a break
for it — and ended up skeletons on
this deadwood shore.

Now in California I gape at the standing Redwoods
I creep like a bug through the ferns at their feet
I hug a Great Grandmother and feel the Earth
quake beneath me as a logging truck
ruMMMBles through the forest carrying
bodies: a hearse...

Does it help if my tears splash into
your rough-red jagged-edged bark?
The ocean has been crying salt for you
all these years,
but OUR tears? Have they come too late?

Susan McCampbell Ring



FOR THE ARMADILLOS

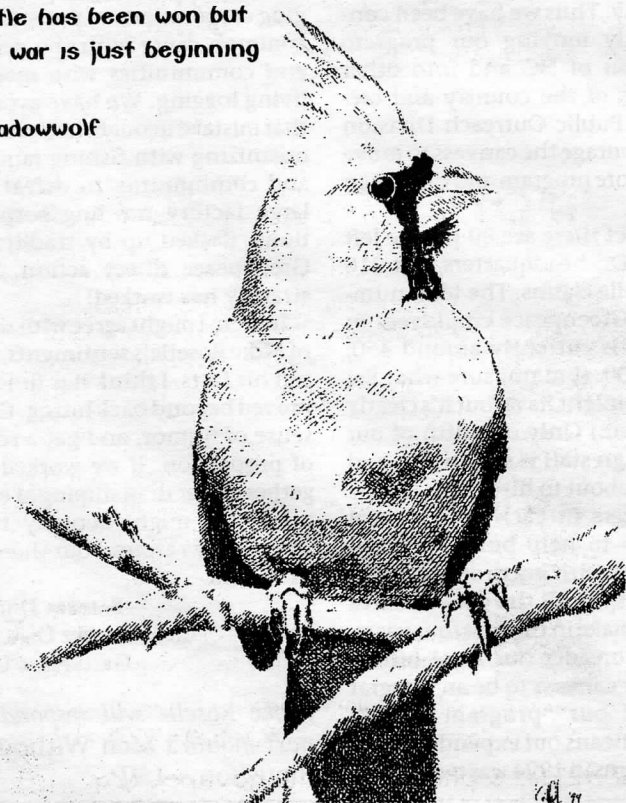
We've noticed how
you've come up as far as Kansas
curled in maimed half-moons by the road.
What do you do that for?
Won't the bobcat still peel you
slick as abalone?
Won't you still surprise us
like a walking rock
or shock us as you bolt from ditches,
running like we never knew you could?
Go ahead and butt your snout into
those bugs for now.
Go ahead and make your little
feet rattle through burrs and thistles
while your body floats like
the moon above them.
But what did you come here for?
To have some farm girl fling
you wounded from a bridge
on the Cimarron,
thinking that she is doing
you a favor,
thinking that you
are some kind of half-assed
nightmare turtle?
Some folks say you taste like rabbit.
Others say you carry leprosy,
but most of us just glimpse
a bubble and ears poking up
from the asphalt
and drive on.

Greg Keeler

from Epiphany at Goofy's Gas

Send Poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
ASUC Box 361
Berkely, CA 94720-4510

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THE HUMANURE HANDBOOK:

a guide to composting human manure
by J. C. Jenkins

REVIEWED BY DEAN CAMPBELL

...[N]obody gives a damn about humanure. The last thing anyone wants to think about is a turd, especially their own.

—Joe Jenkins

"Why the hell am I bothering with this?" is a running theme in the *Humanure Handbook*. The author has a clear sense that, of our society's many dysfunctions, our methods of crap disposal will probably be the last to go. We'll give up our television, our three-bedroom suburban house and our children. But the gloriously convenient, water guzzling, river fouling, nutrient wasting flush toilet is what makes us men. It's what separates us from lower forms of poop producers.

This is a fundamentally radical book. While on the one hand Jenkins addresses the specific and vital issues related to humanure and nutrient recycling, he also maps out a path to bioregional sustainability. Think of it as an eco-Luddite anarchist's potty training manual. His design is simple, cheap and effective. Moreover, his research on microbial pathogens is thorough. He devotes an entire chapter to safety, but if you don't trust his science just remember that he has been composting humanure for 15 years, using it on his family's vegetable garden, and never once gotten ill from it.

Here is a summary of his design. At the heart of the system is a five gallon pickle bucket and a compost pile. Basically, you relieve yourself in the bucket and cover it with saw dust. Since its odorless, he recommends it be placed indoors. Then when it's full, you dump it into your compost heap and cover that with straw. When that pile grows too big, start another one and let the old one sit for a year. Then chuck that shit on your garden and feast heartily on the summer's bounty.

The crucial element in this low-tech method is heat. The heat of course comes from harmless thermophilic bacteria that thrive in the proper conditions while killing off all pathogens in the compost pile. If you are interested in making humanure for your vegetable garden, this book will help ensure proper conditions.

Joe Jenkins' book probably won't knock Mr. Limbaugh off the best seller list (except perhaps by a clerical mistake due to overlapping subject matter). No, this excellent work was written by and for crazy people. It's for those who lack common sense, who ask too damn many questions (e.g. "where's that little turd gonna end up, anyway?") and who are just plain uncouth enough to want to muck about with their own excreta.

See ad on next page for ordering information.

REVIEWS

SOUTHBOUND a film by Doug Hawes-Davis

REVIEWED BY JAMES BARNES

"Chip mills make for healthier forests."—Bill Moody, Alabama State Forester 1970-1993.

For those of you unacquainted with Doug Hawes-Davis' work (*The Element of Doom* and *Green Rolling Hills*), his new documentary would be a good place to start. *Southbound* examines the pulp and paper industry's move into the recovering hardwood forests of the Southeastern US.

Hawes-Davis' technique involves the use of extensive interviews with people involved on all sides of the issue—in this case, hardwood chipping. Short clips from each interview are mixed in order to address a particular question—conversion of native hardwoods to monocrop softwood plantations, for instance—and to juxtapose opposing viewpoints.

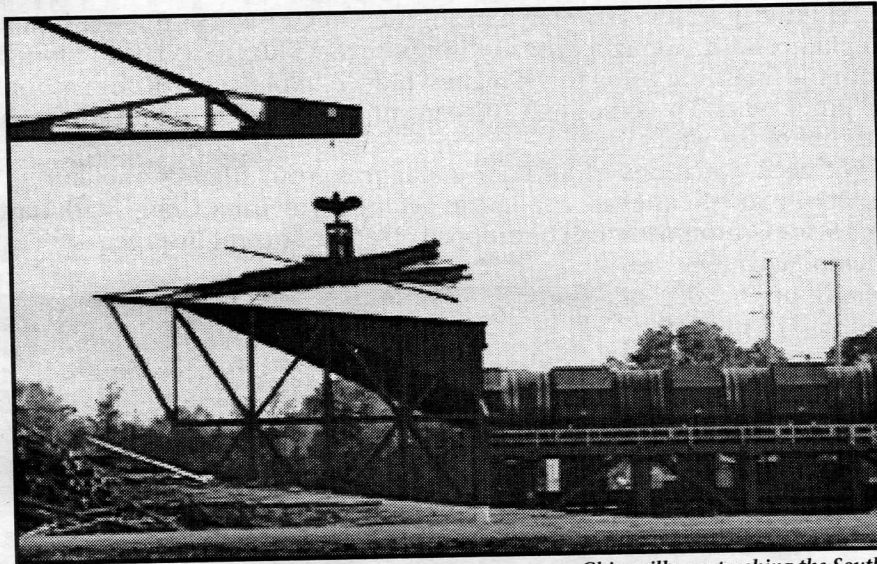
In *Southbound* we see the pain in the faces of local people who perceive their future being ground up and spat out along with the forests. The screaming of machinery and the pan shots of waste and devastation are presented as a backdrop to the nauseating lies of gray-faced bureaucrats. One of the most moving interviews in the video features an old man whose daughter came home from Colorado and went out with her father to the old swimming hole to find it was completely filled up with sand and gravel, the result of massive clearcutting, road building and log skidding in the hills above the creek. The old fellow says his daughter cried.

The most repulsive interviews the viewer must endure are with such worthies as a Tennessee Valley Authority functionary who regards the operation of the free market as an inevitable (and profitable) force. Most appallingly, Alabama's recently retired state forester and winner of the fossil-frontal lobed, nuke-the-forests-for-Jesus-and-Capital, Timber Beast of the Year award, Bill Moody explains, "Why, if it weren't for all them monocrop plantations, we wouldn't have all them endangered species—they'd be gone!" Doug delights in exposing the clammy, shrunken souls of bureaucrats and letting them hoist themselves by their own petards. If you enjoy inflicting pain on yourself, this video's for you.

Perhaps the most interesting and articulate interview is with a man who runs a small hardwood sawmill and who understands precisely the consequences of stripping out the forests for the international pulp market and the loss of labor-intensive

work in the furniture and cabinetry industries in the Southeast.

The forest products industry in this country has a vision of a 100-year continental rotation. At the beginning of this century the East was finished off and the destruction of the Pacific Northwest began



Chip mills are trashing the South

in earnest. Now, on the eve of a new century, the old growth in the Northwest is essentially gone, and the hardwoods of the East have regrown. The vision of economic sustainability offered by the industry back East will actually only sustain for 20 to 30 years before they've finished everything off (at a rate of 200 square miles of forest land every three years per mill). Most of the people affected by the coming of the chip mills see this and oppose them (except their cheerleaders in the industry associations and bureaucracies).

The reaction of people in the Southeast is certainly a contrast to the people of Apple Grove, WV, featured in the earlier companion video *Green Rolling Hills*. In this film the people seemed so bowed by the weight of poverty and industrial ideology that has filled up the Ohio valley that they cannot imagine a future not filled with stinking smoke and denuded hills. In the southeast the people are clearly against the mills, although their managerial class is, as always, in the pockets of wealth and power. The difference is telling: the ordinary folks speak of family, community, beauty. The managers talk about the market, products, attractive resources and volumes. *Southbound* makes it evident that the former view must prevail if the Eastern forests are not to be destroyed.

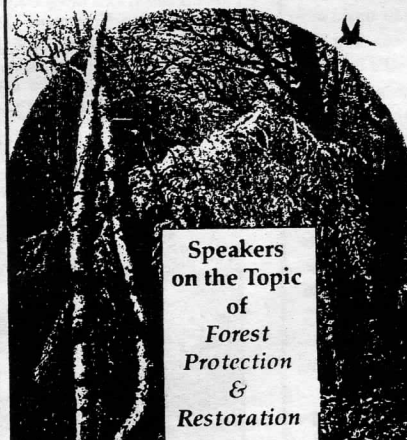
Check out this video, available from Ecology Center Productions, 1519 Cooper St., Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 728-5733.

Nonviolence and the media: calling for your stories of success and failure

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Please contact Devin for speaker fees, additional information, or to set a date for a presentation at: PO Box 7653, Columbia, MO 65205-7653

314/443-6832 (fax & phone) devin@igc.apc.org

Second Annual Appliance Bash

The madness driven by the gleeful whirl, hum, and flash of many, many appliances as they suck down the power of rivers and dash what is left of the region's salmon runs is once again reaching critical mass. It is high time to start smashing.

Tentatively set for early March in Eugene, Oregon, will be the second annual Appliance Bash. Appliances or anything else that plugs in will be auctioned off, with the smashing going to the highest bidder. Implements of destruction will be provided and proceeds will 100 percent benefit direct action efforts in the defense of the wild salmon.

We need donations of all your appliances, your friend's appliances, and especially sought after are appliances belonging to Larry Craig, Mark Hatfield and Slade Gorton. They can be dropped off at the Student Insurgent office (ERB Memorial Union, University of Oregon) or call (541) 942-8589.

Salmon are the most beautiful, mysterious, and powerful critters to ever grace our planet. For centuries they have been the life and blood of our region, shaping its culture, economy, and religion. We cannot stand idle as they die. *Donate!* and stay tuned for further information.



The first annual appliance smash proved fun for the whole family

Roadshow for the Roadless

What blizzard? You really don't think that a few feet of snow, some below-zero temperatures, and a nasty touch of the flu can stop the eastward passage of Robert Hoyt and your Uncle Ramon, do you?

You DO?? Well, we're tougher than you think, then, and so is Claude, the most travelled otherly-abled cat in America. Robert will be playing music and Uncle Ramon will be rappin about everyone's favorite timber sales, Cove/Mallard. So, get out your muckluks, 'cause we're coming soon to a burg near you.

February-March Tour Dates

- | | |
|---|---|
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| 3 Wooster, OH? | College of Wooster Matt Ziegler (216) 287-3951 |
| 4 Gambler, OH | Kenyon College Anna Malone (614) 427-6423 |
| 5 Athens, OH | Susan Hiker (614) 594-6400 |
| 9 Pittsburgh, PA | University of Pittsburgh Matt Peters (412) 268-7187 |
| 10 Indiana, PA | University of PA—Indiana Karen Tuerk (412) 349-5936 |
| 11 State College, PA | Jan Snyder (814) 861-3160 |
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| 14-19 Washington DC/Baltimore, MD | Dianne Gabel (301) 277-6822 |
| 20-27 New York City area | |
| Feb. 28-March 6 Boston, MA | |
| March 7-March 15 New England and New York State | |

Contact the local organizers for details or last minute changes.

For more information and/or to get involved in organizing these events, call Tony or Bobby at (406) 549-3978.

Hey Lowbagger—Want a job?

The *Earth First! Journal* is looking for new staff members. Quiet, dilligent and extremely perspicacious activists willing to live in a chicken coop are encouraged to apply. Don't delay, do it today!

International Day of Action to Protest Police Brutality

Police departments are waging a violent campaign of intimidation against the citizens of our country. This oppression is growing in all areas of the nation. FOOD NOT BOMBS has announced an International Day of Protest Sunday, March 3, 1996, on the fifth anniversary of the Rodney King beating. For more information contact FOOD NOT BOMBS at (800) 884-1136.

H@G R@G

Due to homesteading preparations for winter and an overwhelming schedule, the Hag Rag will be hot off the press by the end of January. Please send \$1-2 for postage if you'd like a copy. Thanx for your patience and Rage On!

Billi Barker, PO Box 183, Harmony ME 04942.



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A GUIDE TO COMPOSTING HUMAN MANURE

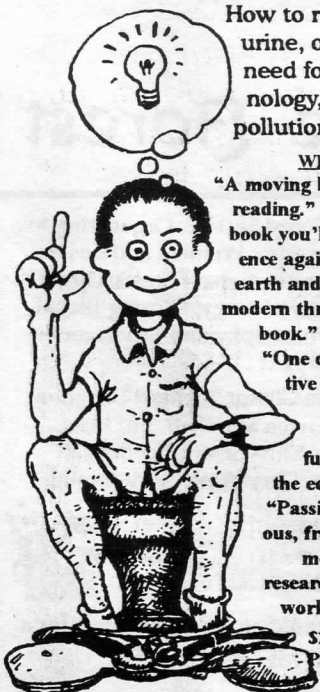
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N C E M E N T S

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Cascadia Forest Defenders Winter Rendezvous

Come join our band of happy, ragged folks! Celebrate our half-year old blockade of F.S. 2408 at Warner Creek and get ready to invade the Eugene E-Law conference (a few days later). Snow is butt-deep; bring appropriate clothing and toys (skis, tubes, toboggans, etc.). Right now it is a two-mile hike, from the point 4x4's must turn back, to the encampment; expect that to get a bit longer, so this will count for credit towards your "Hardcore Fool" merit badge. Call CFD at (541)343-7305 for information or read your last few *Journals* for directions to the Cascadia Free State Sno-Party March 1-3.

Tax the Rich (then eat them)

One percent of this nation's population controls forty percent of the wealth. Each person in this group has one hundred times as much as an "equally-created" person in the lower ninety-five percent. In our land of scarcity amidst abundance the question becomes one of "Should we cast off the lowest caste or require that those who can afford it to bear some weight for those who can't?" Cut social security? Slash the NEA? Eliminate student loans, abandon the environment? Bullshit. TAX THE RICH.

On February 18, 1996, TAX THE RICH participants across the U.S. will cover their neighborhoods with posters advocating the TAX THE RICH concept. We need shrewd eyes and steady hands. We need churning minds, persuasive whisperers and fresh legs.

To register for poster and receive a free TAX THE RICH poster, send a SASE to POB 8090, Middletown, CT 06457. If you can spare it, please include \$5 to cover office and administrative costs. (Make checks payable to TAX THE RICH; donation is optional and is not tax-deductible).

To learn more about the TAX THE RICH Nationwide Saturation Postering Campaign, send mail to above address, e-mail ttr@webcom.com, or visit <http://www.webcom.com/~ttr>.

The "Not Playing By Your Rules Any-more" Tour with Robert Hoyt

Southeastern singer/songwriter/activist Robert Hoyt will be returning to the West with his songs of eco-inspiration from April through July. Dates are available for community activities, campus concerts, benefits, Earth Week events, etc. Call now and get Robert to come on by your way!

If the date for your event has already been set, call soon while Robert's schedule is still flexible. For booking call Folk-the-Boat at (404) 373-8289. Robert's music can be found on page 37.

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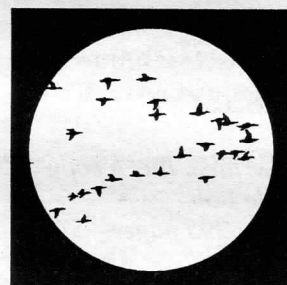
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Wild Rockies Earth First!

WREF! will be conducting an intensive backcountry campaign at Cove/Mallard this summer. If you thought Cove/Mallard was isolated, the area we'll be operating in makes base camp look like Missoula.

And guess what? We need your support! Donations of money, backcountry gear and food; Anything else that seems useful will make the difference between success and total devastation.

Yeah, we're begging, but we're not proud. This is a damn good cause, and if we fail here, Cove/Mallard is lost. Your support really can make the difference.

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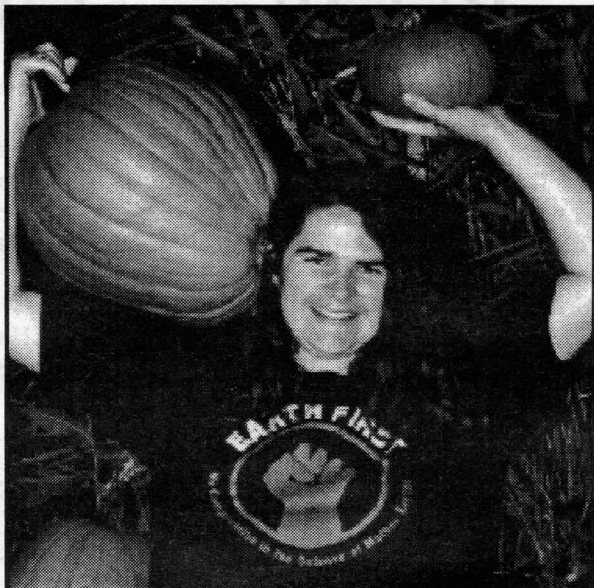


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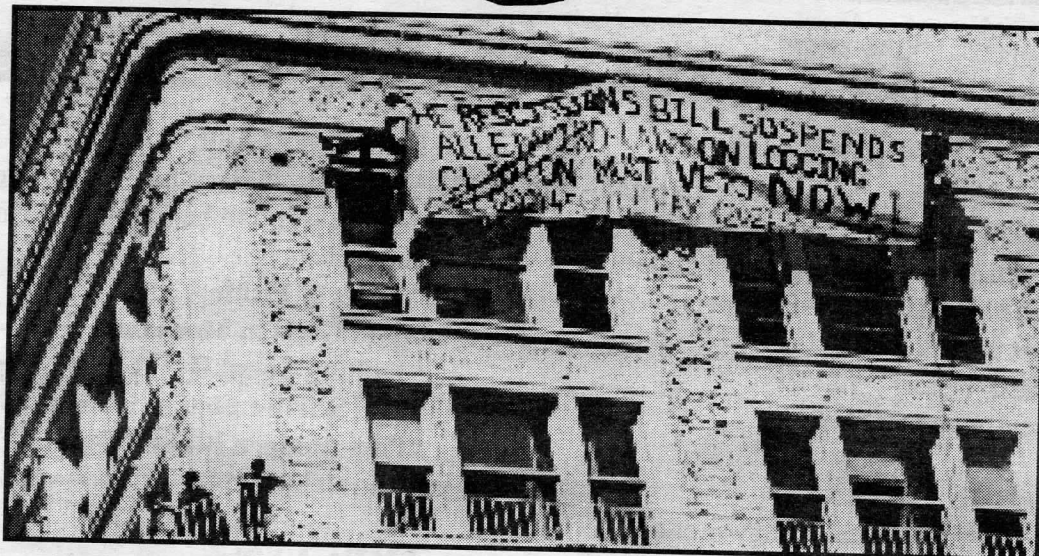
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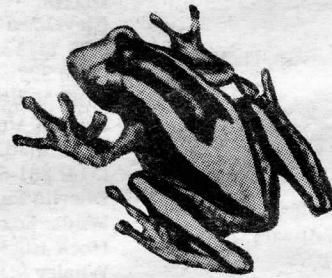
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